THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • JUNE 01, 2026 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 16 • LATE CITY EDITION

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SATWIK AND CHIRAG CAPTURE SINGAPORE OPEN CROWN

India doubles specialists rally to overcome Indonesia pairing of Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Fikri in men's doubles final on Sunday

FIRST TITLE IN OVER TWO YEARS

The Indian pair, after going behind initially, fought back to win 18-21, 21-17, 21-16. This is massive outcome for the World No 4 combo as they had waited for over two years to come this far. Their last title on BWF World Tour was the Thailand Open, which had arrived in May 19, 2024. They incidentally became first pair from India to clinch the Singapore crown

HAPPY DANCE, FITTING CELEBRATIONS

- As was evident in their celebratory dance, this victory meant the world to them as they had endured many difficult moments, both on and off the court, in the last two years or so
- One of the highlights of this week was their victory over World No 1 pairing of Seo Seung Jae and Kim Won Ho in the last-four stage | P11

Third

SUPER 750 TITLE BAGGED BY THE INDIAN PAIR

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Nepal squatting on Indian land, admits PM Shah

Says both sides agreed to rope in historians, surveyors and experts to seek resolution

After becoming prime minister, I came to know that not only has India encroached on Nepal's land, but Nepal has also encroached on India's land in multiple places

Balendra Shah, Nepal PM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA @Kathmandu

NEPAL Prime Minister Balendra Shah was on Sunday quite candid about his country encroaching territories in India, in his response to questions in Parliament on the long-running border dispute. This was his first intervention in Parliament after taking over as prime minister.

Shah said both countries have agreed to take the help of historians, surveyors and experts to seek resolution, adding that Kathmandu has also held diplomatic discussions on the issue with China and the UK.

Nepal and India have an old boundary dispute over Kalapani, Lipulekh and Limpiyadhura, with both countries claiming sovereignty over them. India maintains that the territories are part of Uttarakhand and has said the issue should be addressed through bilateral dialogue.

"The Nepal government has officially sent a diplomatic note to India, mentioning the issue of encroachment of territories by India, including Lipulekh, and we have already received their response," Shah told Parliament. "Both the countries have agreed to resolve the issue sitting together with the help of historians, surveyors and concerned experts through diplomatic means."

He, however, added that it is not only India that has "encroached" land in Nepal, the latter too had done the same with India.

"You will be surprised to know about a fact, which I have learnt recently only after becoming the Prime Minister. India has not only encroached Nepalese territories, but Nepal has also encroached India's territories in many places," said Shah. "Now both countries should study the facts and sit together as friends and resolve the issue."

Shah said Kathmandu also held diplomatic discussions on the issue with China — the three places are located near the trijunction of India, Tibet and Nepal — and the United Kingdom. He said he took up the matter with the UK because it dates back to a period when the British Raj ended.

Earlier this month, Nepal's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lok Bahadur Chhetri said the country is committed to resolving the border issue with India through diplomatic channels.

Chhetri's comments had come days after India firmly rejected Nepal's objection to the upcoming Kailash Mansarovar Yatra via the long-established Lipulekh Pass, dismissing Kathmandu's territorial claims over the region as an "unilateral artificial enlargement" that New Delhi finds untenable.

Former envoy raps Shah

Former Nepalese ambassador to India Nilambara Acharya said Shah has "no information regarding Indian territories being encroached by Nepal". He added that 97% of the border disputes between the two countries have already been resolved

Missing pillars in border areas

There are reports about some Nepalese citizens using land in India and some Indians using land in Nepal because of missing border pillars in some areas, but the Nepal government as such has not encroached India's territory, former Ambassador Acharya said

BACK-TO-BACK B'LURU BRILLIANCE

Royal Challengers Bengaluru players celebrate with the trophy after winning the final in Ahmedabad on Sunday | BCCI

GOMESH S @ Ahmedabad

FAIRYTALE finishes are hard to come by in sport. As much as one hopes for it, such moments do not happen to every sporting legend. Virat Kohli chased it for 18 years in the Indian Premier League (IPL) before the Royal Challengers Bengaluru came together to win their first title in 2025.

On Sunday, in Ahmedabad, Kohli had his moment. Again. With an unbeaten 75 off 42 balls — also his fastest IPL fifty (25) in 19 years — the former captain took RCB to their second title, beating Gujarat Titans in front of 90000 fans who were cheering for him. However, the chase and title were possible because of their bowling attack, led by Josh Hazlewood and Bhuvneshwar Kumar, who removed Shubman Gill and B Sai Sudharsan early to break the contest. They were reduced to 115/6, and from thereon, despite Washington Sundar's fighting fifty that took GT to 155/8, it was RCB's game to lose.

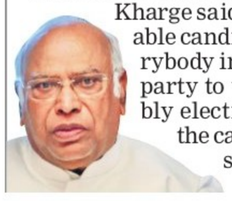
For the first 15 years, RCB remained a batting dynasty led by Kohli, AB de Villiers and Chris Gayle. Over the years, almost every batting superstar, especially overseas, would have turned up for the franchise. They headlined victories while bowlers remained in the shadows. Now, the batters aren't the lead protagonists anymore. It was the Kumars, Hazlewoods and Krunals who won them their first IPL title. And it is they who made the fairytale possible for Kohli. P11

We've to be careful while picking DKS cabinet, says Kharge

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI @Kalaburagi

"WE have to be careful while choosing ministers in the new cabinet as the state will face Assembly elections in 24 months," said AICC president **Mallikarjun Kharge** here on Sunday. It has not been decided as to how many would be inducted into the cabinet on Wednesday, the day DK Shivakumar will be sworn in as chief minister, and how many deputy chief minister posts will be created. There should not be any room for dissatisfaction after the cabinet is formed, he said.

"We have to think of many things while creating deputy chief minister posts too. The Congress high command is considering all the facts and everything will be known by Wednesday morning. In the first phase, 8-10 might be sworn in as ministers along with Shivakumar and the remaining posts will be filled up within a fortnight or month," Kharge said.



On appointing new president to the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC), Kharge said the search is on for a suitable candidate as he should take everybody into confidence and lead the party to victory in the 2028 Assembly elections. "We have to work on the caste combination, too, while selecting the new KPCC president," he added.

EXPRESS READ

Six killed as SUV rams auto in Bagepalli

BAGEPALLI: Five women and the driver died, while four other women were critically injured after an SUV hit the auto-rickshaw they were travelling in on Bengaluru–Hyderabad highway around 3pm on Sunday. The impact jolted the auto forward and it hit a stationary container lorry. The three-wheeler was crushed between the two vehicles. P5

No terror death; May a month of peace in J&K

SRINAGAR: May passed off peacefully in Jammu and Kashmir with no fatality due to terror-related incidents, according to data compiled by the South Asia Terrorism Portal, which reflects improvement in security situation. It is for the first time over three decades ago that May witnessed no loss of life in any terror incident or infiltration attempt. P8

Experts: Thinning snow, depleting water level in Himalayas worrying

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

THERE is an ecological crisis in the Himalayas. Glaciologists and experts working in the region have expressed serious concerns over depleting water levels in rivers and streams, including the Indus river.

This is impacting the water requirement of not just local communities and those living downstream, but also across international borders, experts said. Water levels have been thinning for the last decade, but it has been markedly apparent this year, they added.

Prof Anil Kulkarni, noted glaciologist and distinguished scientist, Divecha Centre for Climate Change, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, said there are various dimensions to the depleting water levels and reducing snow cover in the Himalayas. Rising human activity and reduced accumulation of snow mass are the two primary reasons, he added. P5

General Raja Subramani takes charge as 3rd CDS

JAVARIA RANA @New Delhi

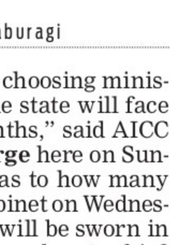
IN a twin change of guard at the helm of India's defence establishment, China-Pakistan expert General N S Raja Subramani on Sunday took charge as the third Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and Admiral Krishna Swaminathan as the 27th Chief of the Naval Staff.

Gen Subramani succeeds Gen Anil Chauhan, whose tenure ended on Saturday. He takes charge at a time when the armed forces are pushing ahead with the theatre command reforms, tri-service integration and accelerated modernisation.

Gen Subramani said his primary focus will be transformation of the armed forces and organisational reforms to "enhance jointness, synergy and integration". On modernisation, he said, "Greater collaboration between the military, industry, academia, startups and the research ecosystem will be the key enabler."

He had been serving as Military Adviser at the National Security Council Secretariat. He was commissioned into the 8th Battalion of the Garhwal Rifles in 1985 and served as Vice Chief of the Army Staff from July 2024 to July 2025.

Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani



Admiral Krishna Swaminathan

Meanwhile, Adm Swaminathan succeeded Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, who retired on Sunday. Adm Swaminathan said his top priority will be to ensure the Navy maintains the highest level of operational readiness and combat effectiveness.

Adm Swaminathan, who joined the force on July 1, 1987, is a specialist in communication and electronic warfare. He takes charge as the Navy aggressively pursues indigenous warship construction, submarine induction, carrier battle group operations, and unmanned systems amid growing tensions in the Indo-Pacific region.

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BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
• Monday: 01.06.2026 • Year: Parabhava • Ayana: Uttharayana
• Ritu: Greeshma • Masa: Adhika Jyeshta • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Prathami 2.35 pm
• Nakshatra: Jyesta 5.40 pm • Moon in Dhanur Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
• Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 32°C
FORECAST
Isolated tstorms late. Cloudy

Sunrise 05.52 am
Sunset 06.42 pm
Moonrise 06.20 pm
Moonset 05.23 am

02 BENGALURU | MONDAY 01.06.2026 | newindianexpress.com

Elated Bengalureans celebrate the victory of RCB on Kanakapura Road in Bengaluru on Sunday; (R) A celebration in Cubbon Park | KEVIN NASHON & SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Ee sala nu cup namde, fans roar, storm streets

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CHANTS of 'Ee sala nu cup namde' (The cup is ours this time too) and 'Prati sala cup namde' (Cup will be ours from now on) rented the air as Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) clinched their second IPL trophy defeating Gujarat Titans in Ahmedabad on Sunday night.

Sporting striking red jerseys, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) fans thronged cafes, restaurants, pubs and clubs screening the IPL final on Sunday, as public screening was restricted across the city.

Bengaluru's mood was filled with excitement and enthusiasm with their favourite team entering the finals this time with fans wishing and praying that the team would win this year too and their prayers came true in an exciting fashion.

While the target was easy to chase, RCB fans were worried what if their team lost wickets fast. Soon after the final began, the usually busy city roads emptied out with the loyal 'RCBians' glued to their TVs and big screens, getting up only during commercial breaks. Soon after the team inched closer to victory and crossed 100 runs, fans started celebrating. Virat Kohli's 'not out' decision invited whistles across the city.

Strict security measures were in place across city, especially after the tragedy during RCB victory celebrations last year where 11 people lost their lives. The police had banned bike rides, thrill rides, unnecessary honking and bursting of crackers across the city.

Heavy police presence was seen in the Central Business District, especially on MG Road, Church Street, and other key locations after 10 pm. The police intensified patrolling and Reserve Police platoons were deployed at strategic points. Drunk-driving checks were conducted. Celebrations spilled onto roads despite the police advisory urging the public to celebrate responsibly and safely.

Chief Minister-designate DK Shivakumar said, "Tonight, Bengaluru rises again as champions! RCB has created history by clinching a second consecutive IPL title. With grit, composure, and the heart of true champions, the team has once again made Bengaluru proud." He congratulated players, coaches, support staff and millions of fans who stood by the team every step of the way.

Tonight, Bengaluru rises again as champions! RCB has created history by clinching a second consecutive IPL title. With grit, composure, and the heart of true champions, the team has once again made Bengaluru proud

— DK Shivakumar, Chief Minister-designate

A policeman controls the crowd as RCB fans hit the street to celebrate IPL victory on Kanakapura Road in Bengaluru on Sunday | KEVIN NASHON

Traffic congestion on MG Road on Sunday night | PTI

City under yellow alert till June 5 as IMD predicts rain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast rain and thunderstorm activity over Bengaluru and other parts of south-interior Karnataka over the coming week, with the city remaining under a yellow alert till June 5.

According to IMD, Bengaluru Urban and Rural districts are likely to receive light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by gusty winds for several days. On Monday, the city is expected to witness a cloudy sky with rain and winds of 40-50 kmph in some areas. The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to hover around 33°C and 21°C.

The weather office attributed the prevailing conditions to multiple upper-air cyclonic circulations over Vidarbha, the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, along with associated troughs extending across central and southern India. These systems are also creating favourable conditions for the further advance of the southwest monsoon over parts of the Arabian Sea, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and the Bay of Bengal during the next three or four days.

IMD has warned of heavy rainfall at isolated places in south-interior Karnataka on June 1. Similar weather conditions are likely to persist from June 2 to 6 across Bengaluru and neighbouring districts, including Ramanagara, Kolar and Chikkaballapur. Mysuru, Kodagu, Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, Chamarajanagar, Tumakuru and Chitradurga districts are expected to receive heavier spells of rain on June 1. Heavy rainfall has also been forecast over coastal Karnataka from June 3 to 6.

The advisory comes after Bengaluru witnessed widespread rainfall in recent days, leading to waterlogging and traffic disruptions in several parts of the city. Residents have been advised to remain cautious during thunderstorms and strong winds and to plan commuting accordingly.

EXPRESS READ

Seminar in Malleswaram discusses civic issues

BENGALURU: Greenpeace India, headed by Preeti Sunderajan, who is contesting from Ward 53 in the upcoming GBA elections, on Sunday organised a workshop in Malleshwaram where the local residents discussed civic issues with urban planning experts in the city. The workshop was attended by more than 40 residents from Ward 43. The discussions focused on four topics which the residents considered to be of most importance. They raised questions and concerns about matters that hamper creating accessible footpaths, balancing parking needs with pedestrian access, integrating street vendors into the neighbourhood fabric and improving waste management systems. "Too often, ward-level solutions are designed top-down, and citizens are informed after the decisions have already been made. This workshop turned that model around. The people who use these streets every day were invited to be a part of designing the solutions. What distinguished this session was its format – rather than experts prescribing solutions top-down, citizens were treated as primary stakeholders who understand the problems most intimately," said Sunderajan. **ENS**

GBA's new climate drive: Walk 1km, don't ride

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Climate Action Cell of Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has launched the #1Km-Challenge. The campaign aims to address traffic congestion, air pollution and sedentary lifestyles by urging people to consider walking for trips under one kilometre instead of opting for motorised transport.

According to the campaign, a 10-minute walk can help reduce carbon emissions, improve physical health, ease traffic on city roads and contribute to a more walkable Bengaluru.

The month-long campaign in June encourages Bengalureans to participate and challenge friends and family to adopt walking for short daily trips.

The campaign has sparked a wave of responses from citizens. They questioned the practicality of walking in many localities, citing broken, encroached or non-existent footpaths, garbage dumping, open drains and unsafe road conditions, forcing pedestrians onto the carriageway. Several users urged civic authorities to prioritise the construction and maintenance of wide, continuous and safe footpaths before promoting walking as a sustainable mobility option.

Six vehicles seized, FIR filed against illegal garbage dumping

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

SIX vehicles were seized, and an FIR was registered against those who were illegally transporting and dumping solid waste on vacant lands in the Kadugodi jurisdiction, Mahadevapura zone. Waste was being illegally dumped into the Dakshina Pinakini River adjoining Survey Nos. 130, 131, and 142 near Siddartha Layout in Kadugodi. Following public complaints, corporation officials maintained surveillance and initiated a special enforcement operation.

Five waste-laden vehicles that had arrived at the site for illegal dumping were seized on May 29. The drivers fled the scene after noticing officials. Bengaluru East City Corporation (BECC) said on Sunday that a sixth vehicle was seized at the same location on May 30.

Eco Sphere Waste Solutions Company was authorised by the corporation to collect and dispose of bulk waste generated from various commercial establishments and residential apartments within its jurisdiction. However, a group led by Naushad and others allegedly used fake identification cards in the name of the company and illegally collected bulk waste from different areas.

An FIR was registered at the Kadugodi police station by the assistant general manager of the solid waste division. Legal action has been initiated against the vehicle owners, drivers, other persons involved, and the landowner who permitted the illegal dumping of waste on the property.

Civic officials, with the help of police, take into custody a vehicle used for illegally transporting and dumping solid waste near Siddartha Layout in Kadugodi | EXPRESS

Commissioner DS Ramesh on Sunday said the corporation will not tolerate illegal dumping of waste under any circumstances. He warned that disciplinary measures will be enforced concerning behaviours that threaten urban cleanliness, public health, and environmental protection. Punitive and criminal proceedings will continue against individuals and organisations involved in dumping of waste at unauthorised locations, using vacant lands as dumping grounds, or engaging in illegal transportation and disposal of waste.

The operation was jointly completed by solid waste management division, assistant general manager, marshal supervisors, ward marshals, health inspectors, and other corporation staff. DS Ramesh urged the citizens to cooperate in maintaining a clean and healthy city. The public is asked to immediately inform the city corporation or the nearest police station if they notice vehicles or individuals involved in illegal waste dumping activities.

Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

01st June : Mercury Gets Emotional Mercury dives into the Cancerian ocean, and we tap into information deeper than logic. Fear, desire, jealousy, grief, instinct -- all information arising from older, faster parts of human processing. What begins outside of reason won't be changed by reason alone, but logic can still influence us, slow down our more rash reactions and work its way into the equation.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Your contradictions are part of the appeal, so don't rush to try to make sense of everything. Also, today there's a rebel spirit flickering in you. Stoke the fire. Express it before it expresses you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)
By now, most people understand that the "free trial" means, "We'll start charging you very soon, but long enough down the road that you may not even remember you signed up for this." This is a week to resist taking or offering any freebies.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
You'll make people happy by making yourself happy, because the way you harmonize your own scene colors everything. People benefit from your joy, your magic. Focus on what you need and want and you'll naturally uplift others.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
You prefer to be the helper, not the helped. But don't rob anyone of the chance to assist. Helping can be a huge source of self-esteem and purpose. You need it, and they need to give it -- a perfect confluence of interests.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
What we assume is not always what is. Avoid jumping to conclusions today. Ask for facts and feedback from a variety of people. Even if you choose not to follow it, you're better for the outside perspective.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Most glues take hours to dry. Cement requires a day to set up. Relationships can take months, years, even decades to gel. The chemical reactions that make a bond cannot be rushed. Relax. It's coming together.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
Maybe there are thousands of people trying to do the same thing. But don't be afraid to compete for what's popular. If you succeed, your rewards will be plentiful. If you don't, the lessons you learn will be in high demand.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
Forget about them, because as soon as you're caught working for their response, the spell will be broken. Do it for you. Today, you'll keep your mischievous spirit alive by doing what entertains you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
The English proverb suggests that you shouldn't fall before you're pushed. But sometimes you push yourself and you just accept that falling will be part of it. And if you fall, you do it again until your push is a launch into flight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
Map out your dreams, then carry that map with you wherever you go. Maybe it's like carrying a map of a country you do not inhabit at this point, but it's still getting you somewhere. It's still part of what makes today a fun and memorable experience.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
It can feel very ordinary to do extraordinary things. But have no doubt, something you provide, your effort, your consistency, your way of handling things, makes another person's day better. Give yourself full props and credit.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
You cannot avoid communicating because even if you do not use words, your body, movement, breathing, energy and very essence is sending a message. Your awareness in this regard makes you most effective.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

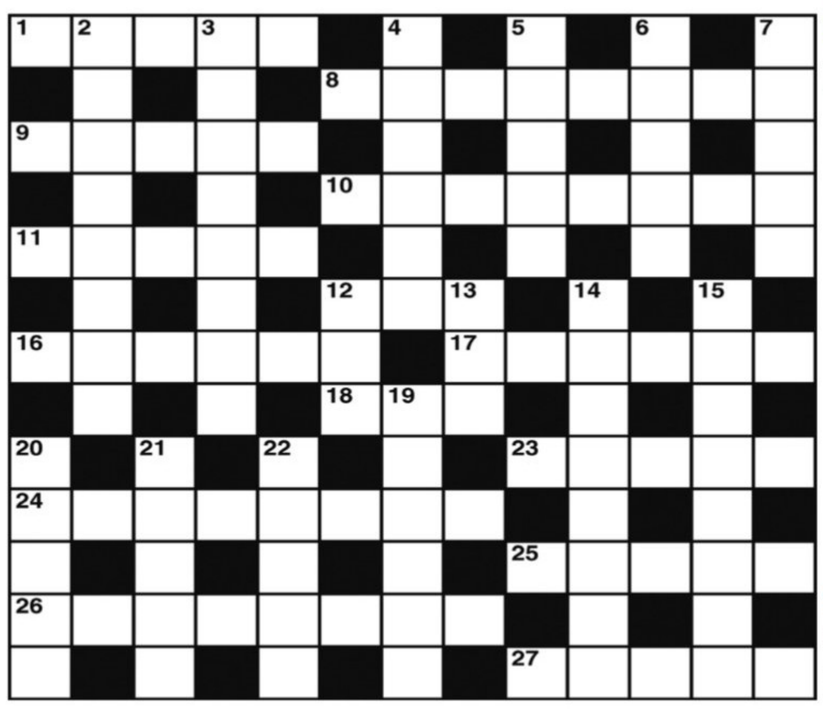
			9		6	4		
	2	9			4			7
		6					8	
5	6			9				
			6		8			
				4			5	1
	5					2		
2			7			1	4	
		8	1		2			

7	5	9	4	2	1	8	6	3
8	1	6	3	9	7	5	4	2
3	4	2	6	8	5	7	9	1
4	3	1	2	5	9	6	8	7
2	9	7	8	6	3	1	5	4
5	6	8	7	1	4	2	3	9
1	7	5	9	3	6	4	2	8
6	2	3	1	4	8	9	7	5
9	8	4	5	7	2	3	1	6

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 City which captivated Helen (5)
8 Breach copyright for example of refining process (8)
9 Destroy note written in Gaelic (5)
10 Managed to find time which suited nicely (6,2)
11 A custom that makes us grow old (5)
12 Settle back and talk a lot (3)
16 Give a plain description of French capital (6)
17 Having gone off thoroughly confused (6)
18 Make an effort to hear (3)
23 Salary increased to get out of debt (3,2)
24 Words in action? (8)
25 A reduction by a quarter is severe (5)
26 The principle of no credit (8)
27 Way-out ideas are not to be considered (5)

DOWN

2 Stayed in custody (8)
3 Status symbols? (8)
4 An alcoholic drink leads to a complaint (6)
5 Muse to appear after a very long time (5)
6 A poem of positive significance (5)
7 Indicates way of getting funds (5)
12 Catch or catch on (3)
13 Sadly robbed of 500 pounds as an estimate (3)
14 Overtures returned with interest? (8)
15 Leave in a rush having been recompensed (8)
19 Make phone call about an account - for betting? (6)
20 Prepared to study at the end of the day (5)
21 Roadside dump (5)
22 Man with the knack of showing compassion (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Racehorses, 6 Acre, 10 Nerve, 11 Undertake, 12 Espalier, 13 Isaac, 15 Allagog, 17 Drivers, 19 In store, 21 Regimen, 22 In tow, 24 On safari, 27 Ideal gift, 28 Igloo, 29 Snap, 30 Insomniacs.

Down: 1 Ring, 2 Chrysalis, 3 Hyena, 4 Routing, 5 Endured, 7 Clara, 8 Exercising, 9 Trailing, 14 Facilities, 16 Goodwill, 18 Esmeralda, 20 Erosion, 21 Risotto, 23 Theta, 25 Feign, 26 Lots.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

NDOHU

ZMEAA

BRTIBA

IHBTRG

How'd I do, Coach? I think that was my fastest yet.
Did I qualify for the next meet?
Darn! It isn't working! Sorry, guys.
WHEN THE TRACK COACH'S STOPWATCH WOULDN'T WORK, IT WAS ---
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: VENOM STAFF CLOSED POSTAL
Answer: He wore size 20 in high school, so finding a pair that fit him was — NO SMALL "FEET"

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation has started issuing free and concessional student bus passes for the 2026-27 academic year, with applications being accepted through the Seva Sindhu portal from May 29. Students must submit their applications through portal as part of a fully computerised pass distribution system introduced under government guidelines

Bengaluru tops in suicide rate among metros

Experts flag work culture, social isolation, delayed professional consultation

ANUBHAB ROY @ Bengaluru

NATIONAL Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data on suicide rates in the nation's cities puts Bengaluru in a troubling spot. While among metropolitan cities it ranks second, behind Delhi in terms of number of suicides, its suicide ratio as per population is significantly higher, earning it the first spot amongst metros. Mental health experts in the city are of the opinion that the city's pace and work environments allow little time to reflect on one's mental condition, let alone recover.

NCRB data from the 2024 calendar year shows 2403 suicides with a population of 84.99 lakh people, making city's suicide rate - 28.3; Delhi, for reference, had 2905 suicides amongst a population of 163.15 lakh people, making a suicide rate of 17.8.

"The increase in suicides may also reflect the cumulative effect of multiple pressures converging at once. Economic uncertainty, demanding work cultures, rising living costs, relationship instability, social isolation, and the constant pressure to perform have created an environment where many people feel they have very little room for emotional recovery," said Neha Cadabam, a senior psychologist at Cadabam's Hospital, adding that in her experience, she had found that particularly in Bengaluru, there was a "growing mismatch between how people appear externally and what they are experiencing internally."

On the other end of the work experience spectrum, joblessness – especially in cases where it affects prolonged bouts – can be an equally potent source of anxiety, especially in a city so competitive and volatile in terms of job security. "Many individuals initially attempt to cope independently, but prolonged uncertainty can contribute to depression, anxiety, substance use, and feelings of helplessness. Unfortunately, financial concerns often delay professional consultation, meaning many seek psychiatric help only after symptoms have become severe enough to interfere with daily functioning," said Megha Shankar, a clinical psychologist.

In the context of work pressure in a city like Bengaluru that is operating past its saturation point in terms of industrialisation, experts believe that simply decentralising the city will not be enough. "Decentralisation may reduce certain environmental stressors, but suicide rates are not determined by population density alone. Simply redistributing industries will not automatically reduce psychological risk unless these systems are strengthened alongside economic development," said Shankar.

HELPLINE

If you are having suicidal thoughts, or are worried about a friend or need emotional support, someone is always there to listen. Call Sneha Foundation - 04424640050, Tele Manas - 14416

Farmer hacks wife to death over suspicion of affair

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A 42-year-old woman was allegedly hacked to death by her husband with a machete at their residence in Dasarahalli village of Ramanagara taluk, Bengaluru South district, on Sunday morning over suspicions of an illicit relationship.

The deceased has been identified as Nagamma (42), a homemaker. Her husband, Kanimadaiah, is a farmer. The couple had been living separately in the same village for the past three years and have two children in their 20s.

According to the police, around 7.30 am, Nagamma's daughter stepped out of the house to attend a phone call. Taking advantage of her absence, Kanimadaiah, who lived about 100 metres away from Nagamma's house, entered the house carrying a machete, locked the main door from inside, and allegedly hacked Nagamma multiple times. She suffered injuries on her head, hands and legs.

Hearing Nagamma's screams, her daughter alerted the neighbours. However, before help could arrive, Nagamma succumbed to her injuries.

Ramanagara Rural Police said they have sent the body for autopsy. Based on a complaint filed by her daughter Yogitha, they registered a murder case against Kanimadaiah and took him into custody for questioning. Kanimadaiah allegedly confessed to the crime and told the police that he suspected his wife of having an illicit relationship with a villager.

ABANDONED RIDES

Electric scooters which were earlier used for self-ride rental service are now dumped in an open field at Rajarajeshwari Nagar in Bengaluru | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

EXPRESS READ

Deputy tahsildar found dead in Hassan lodge, suicide note recovered

HASSAN: A deputy tahsildar allegedly ended his life by hanging himself at a private lodge in Hassan city on Saturday night. The deceased, Thimmaiah (52), was a native of Kodagu district. He was serving as the deputy tahsildar at the Saligrama tahsildar's office in Mysuru district. He allegedly took his life while visiting his family members. Police have recovered a four-page death note from his pocket and are yet to ascertain the exact reason for the incident. Sources said the death note indicated that he was frustrated with family members. **ENS**

2 teens die in separate accidents, police may book parents, bike owner

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

TWO minor boys were killed in two road accidents in the city on Saturday night. In a hit-and-run case, a 16-year-old boy died and his friend sustained injuries after a tractor allegedly brushed against their scooter on RTO Road in the Mico Layout traffic police limits. The deceased, Suraj Kumar (16), was a resident of 1st Main Road, Sarvabhouma Nagar. He was studying in 10th standard. His friend, Pushkar Ram Lohar, and Kumar's classmate, both 16 years old, escaped with injuries.

The police said that at 8.45 pm, Kumar was riding a scooter with Lohar on pillion. They were heading home after refuelling at a petrol bunk near Vijaya Bank Layout Circle. A tractor passing on their left side was allegedly being driven at high speeds. The trailer of the tractor hit the scooter's left handlebar when the tractor driver braked suddenly. Both boys fell onto the road, and the rear wheel of the carriage ran over Suraj's head, killing him on the spot. Lohar sustained minor injuries and was rushed to a nearby hospital.

The tractor driver fled the scene. A case is registered against the driver, and the police are analysing CCTV footage to trace him. Police said a case would also be registered against the parents for allowing a minor to ride a scooter.

Head-on collision

A 15-year-old boy riding a motorcycle died after colliding with a scooter near SMVT Railway Station in JB Nagar traffic police limits on Saturday night.

The deceased, Riyan (15), was a resident of Ananthanayar Road in Murphy Town and a Class 10 student. He was riding the motorcycle from Old Madras Road towards the railway station at 8.30 pm. Arun (32), who was riding a scooter from the opposite direction, collided with Riyan's motorcycle. Both riders fell on the road, and Riyan sustained severe head injuries. He was declared brought dead at the hospital. Arun is undergoing treatment and is said to be out of danger. The JB Nagar traffic police have registered a case against Arun. The police said they would also register cases against Riyan's parents and the owner of the vehicle for allowing a minor to ride the motorcycle.

Man fakes pugmarks to cover up murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

A 63-year-old woman was allegedly murdered by a man at Kasuvinahalli village in Nanjangud taluk, who created fake leopard pugmarks in an attempt to make it look like an attack by a wild animal.

The Nanjangud Rural police have arrested Mahadevappa on charges of murdering Shivarudramma and dumping her body in a soak pit in the village. Police said that the incident occurred when Shivarudramma had gone to the Mahalingeshwara Swamy Temple on the outskirts of the village to collect bilva leaves for a puja. She was wearing around 70 grams of gold jewellery. On the temple premises, she sought the assistance of Mahadevappa, to help her gather the leaves.

Police said Mahadevappa offered to help her collect sandalwood leaves and led her to a nearby field. He allegedly murdered her, stole the gold and disposed of the body in a soak pit. Shivarudramma's husband, Guruswamappa, lodged a missing person complaint at the Nanjangud Rural police station. During the search operation, Mahadevappa actively participated and repeatedly suggested that a leopard was spotted in the area and that the woman might have fallen victim to a leopard attack.

His repeated references to the leopard aroused suspicion among investigators and took him into custody for questioning. Mahadevappa later confessed that he was under financial pressure and had planned the murder to steal her jewellery and repay his loans. Police have recovered 53 grams of gold jewellery from the accused.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, **Sri. Vishwanath C S**, S/o. Sri. Sharanappa G, Residing at Flat No. N-1901, Purva Highlands Holiday Village Road, Mallasandra, Bangalore-560 109, is the Owner and in possession of Two Bedroom Residential Apartment bearing Flat No. L-1304, on the 13th Floor, in 'Stuart' Block / Wing, presently BBMP as assigned the Flat with New No. L-1304, present E-Khatha New PID No. 7652217884, of the Apartment building known as 'PURVA HIGHLANDS', having a Built up area of 1082 Sq Ft., (which is inclusive of balconies and utility space) an proportionate common area of 257 Sq Ft., and undivided 0.052% share which is equivalent to 353.11 Sq Feet., Situated at Mallasandra Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk.

Sri. Vishwanath C S has lost the Original Sale Deed dated 18/05/2013, No. JPN-1-01459-2013-14, CD No. JPND209, SRO, J P Nagara, Bengaluru, executed by M/s. Purvankara Projects Ltd., Represented by its Deputy Managing Director – Nani R Choksey in favour of Smt. Madhu Ramprasad Agarwal.

Now, Sri. Vishwanath C S intends to borrow loan from M/s. Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., No. 300/A-70, G Floor, 10th Main Road, Nandini Complex, Jayanagara 5th Block, Bengaluru–560 041, by offering the above mentioned property as security for availing loan.

If any Persons, Financial Institutions, Co-operative Banks, or in possession of the Original Sale Deed dated 18/05/2013, No. JPN-1-01459-2013-14, CD No. JPND209, SRO, J P Nagara, Bengaluru, executed by M/s. Purvankara Projects Ltd., Represented by its Deputy Managing Director – Nani R Choksey in favour of Smt. Madhu Ramprasad Agarwal, shall handover or if any claim over the property described above, shall contact the undersigned in person with all relevant original documents, in respect of the claim within **7 (Seven)** days.

Date: 31.05.2026 Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- K S CHANDRA SHEKAR
Advocate, No. 21, Dhondusa Layout,
Off. Bull Temple Road, Mount Joy Cross Road,
Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore-560 019.
Mob : 94483 66193.

ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿ., ಹೊಸಪೇಟೆ

ಪಿ.ಬಿ. ನಂ.17, ಹೊಸಪೇಟೆ-583201.

ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 91872 35482

E-mail: ceo@bellarydcc.bank.in Web-Site: www.bellarydcc.bank.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಆಡಿವಿ/ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ/ನೇಮಕಾತಿ/೭೨೨/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.06.2026

: ಪರಿಷ್ಕೃತ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ :

ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿ., ಹೊಸಪೇಟೆ ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ೮೨ ವಿವಿಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ನೇರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ (Online) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಖುದ್ದಾಗಿ ಕೋರಿಯರ್ ಅಥವಾ ಅಂಚೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸಲು ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟಪಡಿಸಿದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂ:ಸಿಆಸುಇಂ೨ಸೆಹಮ 2026, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಿನಾಂಕ 13.05.2026 ರನ್ವಯ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗೆ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವಂತೆ ಒಳ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿಯನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಪರಿಷ್ಕೃತ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವಿಧ ವೃಂದದ ಒಟ್ಟು ೮೨ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ವರ್ಗೀಕರಿಸಿ ಮೀಸಲಿರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ವಿವರ	ವೇತನ ಶ್ರೇಣಿ	ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ
1	ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು/ಪ್ರಥಮ ದರ್ಜೆ ಸಹಾಯಕರು	ರೂ. 44425-83700.	22
2	ದ್ವಿತೀಯ ದರ್ಜೆ ಸಹಾಯಕರು	ರೂ. 34100-67400.	28
3	ವಾಹನ ಚಾಲಕರು	ರೂ. 31775-61300.	01
4	ಕಿರಿಯ ಸೇವಕರು	ರೂ. 29600-52800.	31
		ಒಟ್ಟು	82

ಅರ್ಜಿ ನಮೂನೆ / ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆ / ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ ವರ್ಗೀಕರಣ / ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ / ಸ್ಥಳೀಯೇತರ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ / ಒಳ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ / ವಯೋ ಮಿತಿ / ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ / ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ / ಆಯ್ಕೆ ವಿಧಾನ / ಅಜಿತ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ / ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸೂಚನೆ/ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ Web-Site: www.bellarydcc.bank.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅರ್ಜಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ:
ದಿನಾಂಕ 06.04.2026ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸಿರುವ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಈ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನುಸಾರ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಅಂತಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿ ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸುವ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 01.06.2026 ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 30.06.2026

ಸಹಿ :
ಸಂಚಾಲಕ ಸದಸ್ಯರು, ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಸಮಿತಿ,
ಹಾಗೂ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಬ.ಡಿ.ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿ., ಹೊಸಪೇಟೆ.

ಸಹಿ :
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಸಮಿತಿ,
ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ಬ.ಡಿ.ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿ., ಹೊಸಪೇಟೆ.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) | Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) M/S Prakruthi Farms Proprietor Mrs Padmashree W/o. Ashoka Barekere, 2) Mrs. Padmashree W/o. Ashoka Barekere 3) Mr. Ashok Berekere S/o. Mr Vasanta Berekere Kediliah	Loan Account No. 45348640003251 45348640005304 3387020000753476 Loan Amount: Rs.3,70,00,000/-, Rs.45,00,000/-, Rs.10,00,000/-.	**Mortgaged Immovable Property: Property No. I: Schedule 'A' Property:** All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.28/16, 17, Khatha No.953, Assessment No.28, vide CMC Khatha No.166, situated at Mallathahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. **Schedule 'B' Property:** Undivided share of land measuring 960 Sq. Ft. in the Schedule A Property. **Schedule 'C' Property:** All that piece and parcel of Flat bearing residential No.404, 4th floor, having BBMP Municipal No.186/8, having super built-up area of 3630 Sq. Ft. with RCC Roof and 1 covered car parking in the basemen with all buildings and structures thereon, both present and future and **bounded on: East by:** Site No.18; **West by:** Road; **North by:** NRI Institute Property; **South by:** Road. **Property No. II: Schedule 'A' Property:** All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.28/16, 17, Khatha No.953, Assessment No.28, vide CMC Khatha No.166, situated at Mallathahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. **Schedule 'B' Property:** Undivided share of land measuring 480 Sq. Ft. in the Schedule A Property. **Schedule 'C' Property:** All that piece and parcel of Flat bearing residential No.202, 2nd Floor, having BBMP Municipal No.186/5, having super built-up area of 2425 Sq. Ft. with RCC Roof and 1 covered car parking in the basemen with all buildings and structures thereon, both present and future and **bounded on: East by:** Site No.18; **West by:** Road; **North by:** NRI Institute Property; **South by:** Road.	Date of NPA: 01-05-2026 Demand Notice Date: 29-05-2026	Rs.3,35,80,638.02 (Rupees Three Crores Thirty-Five Lakhs Eighty Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Eight And Two Paisa Only) as on 28-05-2026

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 30.05.2026, Place: Bangalore Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

Making Road & Rail Travel Safe for the people of Tumakuru Region

India's development journey is powered by strong, safe, and modern infrastructure.
- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Laying of Foundation Stone for

Road Under Bridge at Kallipalya Gate, Gubbi

- Enhanced public safety in the Tumakuru area
- Improved connectivity for local and regional commuters
- Reduced travel time through elimination of railway crossing delays
- Fulfilment of a long-pending public demand

by

V. Somanna

Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti

All are cordially invited

South Western Railway
In Service of the Nation

PUB/172/AAF/PRB/SWR/2026-27

www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in South Western Railways-SWR SWRRLY SWRAILWAYHQ sw_railways

Chief Minister-designate DK Shivakumar said his oath-taking ceremony will be held at Lok Bhavan instead of the grand steps of Vidhana Soudha so that citizens of Bengaluru are not inconvenienced. This is to avoid traffic congestion due to the large number of vehicles arriving for the event. The programme will be simple and not many people will attend, he said

'TARGETING MULE ACCOUNTS CAN SIGNIFICANTLY WEAKEN CYBERCRIME NETWORKS'

TEAM TNIE

EXPRESS Dialogues

WHILE cybercrimes have surpassed traditional crimes, Karnataka is the first state to set up a Cyber Command. In an interaction with *TNIE*, **Pronab Mohanty**, Director General of Police, Karnataka Cyber Command, shares how the unit is working to tackle the rapidly evolving menace. Excerpts...

The Karnataka Cyber Command is a first of its kind unit in the country. What are its functions?
Cyber Command is a unique concept. It is a fusion platform combining issues of cybercrime, cyber hygiene, cyber outreach, cyber capacity building, enforcement and also cyber security. It also looks at parameters like disinformation, misinformation and malinformation. We advise governmental departments on cybersecurity and let them know if there are breaches.

Where does Cyber Command come into picture?
Cyber Command comes in as the engine. Interfaces are there. For cyber fraud particularly, there is 1930 helpline. There is the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal. The moment the call is made to 1930, the complaint gets lodged as an e-complaint. Command is the fusion platform.

What is the difference between cybercrime and cyber security?
When there is a threat to a database owned by the state or nation, banks or organisations, wherever malware can damage the enterprise or institution itself, it is called a cyber threat. Preventing these exploits is cyber security management. Cybercrime, on the other hand, is an individual oriented experience. There are many kinds of cybercrimes like cyber fraud, essentially cheating. Earlier, fraudsters used to come to the victims and cheat, now they do it through the online medium. People in enforcement categorise cybercrime into three broad categories -- traditional cybercrimes, cyber frauds, and crimes against children and women.

Can you elaborate on the three categories?
Phishing, skimming, data theft, hacking, credit card theft, spamming are traditional cybercrimes. Cyber frauds were there but have now mushroomed. Most of the attention of the police is going towards tackling cyber fraud. Crimes against women and children are the most serious, with two sub-categories. Categories related to children, basically dissemination of CSAM (Child Sex Abuse Material) is dangerous. Generally, it is viewed by paedophiles, prepared by paedophiles and disseminated by them. Crimes against women include cyber stalking, cyber bullying, sextortion, deep fakes, deep nudes, deep porn which may result in distress, financial loss and loss of reputation.

Have there been any changes since the Cyber Command came into force, particularly in terms of recovering money?
The Cyber Command is functioning as a fusion platform and 'theatre command' that brings all police resources under one umbrella to tackle cybercrime in a coordinated manner. Recovery of defrauded money is only one aspect of its operations, while the larger focus is on dismantling the cybercrime ecosystem. The common factor in most cyber frauds is the use of 'mule accounts', bank accounts used to transfer stolen money through multiple layers before it exits the financial system through cash withdrawals, cheques, or cryptocurrency wallets. Targeting mule accounts can significantly weaken cybercrime networks. Cybercriminals usually procure such accounts from organised suppliers, referred to as 'cyber herders', who store and provide mule accounts, fake SIM cards, and other tools required for cybercrimes in exchange for commissions. This network facilitates 'Cybercrime as a Service', where different providers supply various illegal resources to fraudsters. By identifying and targeting these networks, police believe they can detect existing crimes and prevent future offences.

What exactly is a mule account, and how do cybercriminals use it in online frauds?
A mule account is usually a genuine bank account whose owner hands over control to cybercriminals in exchange for money. The account holder provides ATM cards, SIM cards, passbooks, cheque books, and internet banking access to the fraudsters, who use the account to transfer stolen money. During investigations, police trace these accounts back to "mule herders", people who collect and manage multiple such accounts. They identify mule herders through intelligence inputs and raids, and often recover several ATM cards and passbooks belonging to different individuals.

How is the Cyber Command planning to build specialised manpower for tackling evolving cybercrimes?
Cyber Command will focus on training personnel and strengthening technical expertise. While many officers have the aptitude and interest, they also require advanced tools and specialised knowledge in digital forensics and cyber investigations. Authorities are exploring two approaches — training existing police personnel in cybercrime investigation or recruiting experts with technical backgrounds and later training them in policing. So, this quandary exists for us as well, and we will find a solution for it.

How does social media contribute to cyber fraud, especially among children and teenagers?
Social media plays a major role in influencing children and teenagers, particularly Gen Z, who spend significant time online and often trust information shared through various social media platforms, more than advice from parents or teachers. While social media can be used for positive purposes, it also spreads misinformation and exposes young users to cyber fraud risks. Policymaking could help reduce such dangers, like Australia's move to restrict social media access for children below 16 years of age.

How do you protect children from online predators?
Predators are extremely skilled. They groom children by posing as someone else. So the onus is on parents and peers to observe and monitor their actions online. But snatching away devices is not the solution, as it can lead to trauma. Having social media counsellors in school can be beneficial.

Is any cyber education being provided to schools and students?
Yes, cyber awareness programmes are being conducted in schools and colleges with the support of police departments, volunteer organisations, and government agencies. Students and young people are being educated about social media safety, online frauds, cybercrime prevention, and responsible internet usage through awareness sessions, outreach campaigns and videos. Similar awareness drives are also being carried out for senior citizens.

Online gaming has become a major concern; some games are gender-specific. What needs to be done to curb it?
Games are both legal and illegal. Games where money is required are deemed illegal. The central government has come out with a blanket legislation that has made these games illegal. When the Karnataka Police Act was still in place, we came up with a metric to measure whether a game was based on skill or chance. Games like Chess are considered skill-based, while Ludo is a chance-based game. With the blanket legislation, this has become irrelevant. When it comes to addiction, parents, teachers and peers have to guide children. Sites which promote violence and addiction are being blocked, but new ones constantly pop up. It's an ongoing war.

What role is AI playing in cybercrime today?
AI is both a boon and a challenge. It does not necessarily create entirely new cybercrimes, but significantly speeds up and strengthens existing ones. Earlier, fake content existed, but now deepfakes have become extremely realistic because of AI, which helps cybercriminals carry out attacks faster and more accurately. Law enforcement agencies use the same technology to identify vulnerabilities, strengthen cybersecurity systems, and improve investigations. AI can be used for both good and bad purposes.

How do police investigate crimes on apps where messages disappear?
Even if messages disappear, digital traces remain. Investigators use network forensics, operating system forensics, internet logs and traditional policing methods to trace offenders. While the content may vanish from the app, the sender's activity and internet connections can still be tracked.

What are the usual profiles of the accused? Are they well educated?
Not necessarily. Cybercriminals can range from school-level educated individuals to highly qualified hackers. Some only have a basic understanding of systems and learn through experience, while others are experts in networks and operating systems. Most common cyber frauds are carried out by people with practical knowledge rather than advanced qualifications.

Victims of cyber fraud are often well-educated. How do fraudsters identify and obtain information about them?
Fraudsters usually target people with money, as they are more likely to yield financial gains. They obtain information through multiple sources such as word-of-mouth networks, leaked databases, "crime-as-a-service" operators, and even the dark web. In some rare cases, rogue insiders from banks or institutions may illegally share details of customers.

Are cyber fraud gangs operating from within India or abroad?
Cyber fraud networks operate both from India and abroad, particularly from lawless borders near Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar. These groups use VoIP servers based in other countries to mask calls and target victims. They often rely on local partners abroad to supply victim data and run fraud operations.

How challenging is it to crack or investigate the dark web?
The dark web itself is not a crime, but an unindexed part of the internet, often compared to the unseen portion of an iceberg. The dark web is divided into the deep web and dark web; both are not dark. While deep web contains harmless unindexed information, the dark web is actively exploited for crimes. Investigating it is highly challenging due to anonymity and hidden networks.

How has the internet changed the nature of human trafficking?
Trafficking has evolved from a largely physical crime into an organised internet-driven offence. Earlier, laws mainly targeted the end points of exploitation, but amendments have recognised recruitment, transportation, harbouring, exploitation and profiteering as parts of trafficking. With personal data now stored online, traffickers can identify vulnerable children, families and locations through databases and dark web networks.

With most transactions happening online, how can people protect themselves from QR code scams and cyber frauds?
Spoofed QR codes do exist, where fraudsters mimic trusted brands or payment platforms using nearly identical names or symbols. However, such frauds can often be avoided by verifying the recipient's name before making payments.

How dangerous is cryptocurrency in the world of cyber fraud?
The underlying technology for cryptocurrency is blockchain. It operates in a decentralised method of trust. Let's suppose a murder has happened, and only two people have seen it. That is a blockchain in itself, of two independent observers acting as 'nodes'. The same thing can happen for any transaction. If multiple people testify to the fact that a given entity has paid me, then that becomes the truth. The encryption is military grade, 2048 bits in most cases. Once money goes into the cryptoverse, it becomes extremely hard to trace.

What is an insider threat in cyber security management?
The insider threat is becoming more and more common. Bengaluru is a city of startups, with many companies which have sensitive information. Here insider threat is a major threat. A company hires an employee of a different company with escalated privilege access. If the previous employer is not careful of cyber security, the employee takes away software and algorithms which are very valuable. Once intellectual property goes away, it cannot be reimbursed.

Within how much time should a cyber fraud victim register a complaint?
Cyber fraud complaints should be registered instantly through the national helpline 1930. Delays can allow the stolen money to move rapidly across multiple accounts and become difficult to trace within hours. The initial period after a fraud is the 'golden hour' during which chances of recovery are high.

With so many KYC update messages and calls circulating on WhatsApp and other platforms, how can people identify genuine requests?
People should remain sceptical of unsolicited KYC update messages and verify directly with their bank or service provider before responding. Treat every such message as suspicious unless verified.

Why is conviction rate low in cyber crimes?
We are trying to improve conviction rates. One has to understand that the number of cybercrime cases is huge. As of the end of last year, we have around 61,000 cases in investigation. That is around 50 cases per person, and each of these cases would be an individually difficult case. Detection rates are low too. Both will increase, with time.

You were with UIDAI; how safe is our Aadhaar data?
It is one of the safest environments in terms of cybersecurity. Its architecture is very well-reinforced. It incorporates security systemically with every layer, instead of building a database and adding security on top as an exo-layer, like icing on a cake. One's Aadhaar number contains very sensitive data, and you should share it only with select departments. It is illegal for anyone outside these departments to demand your Aadhaar number.

How safe are DigiLocker and DigiYatra?
Aadhaar is a very sensitive number. Everybody cannot have access to it as per law, barring departments like Labour and IT. Otherwise, a masked number with only four visible digits is used. Even while checking into a hotel, Aadhaar is not mandatory. In this case, IDs like driver's licence or PAN can be used. For DigiYatra, it is needed.

How can citizens save themselves from cybercrimes?
One should ask crucial questions like 'Should I make this transaction?' 'Is digital arrest possible?' 'Can there be a twofold rise in my earnings?'

Satish: Am not lobbying for KPCC chief's post

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @Belagavi

AMID speculation over a possible organisational overhaul following the leadership transition in the state, PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi on Sunday sought to project himself as a loyal party soldier, asserting that the final decision on filling key positions in the party rests entirely with the top leadership.

Jarkiholi said he had not spoken to the party leadership on the issue as senior central leaders were occupied with discussions related to the organisational changes. Dismissing suggestions that he was lobbying for the KPCC top post, he said he had not placed any demands before the leadership. "I have not made any demand. From the party's point of view, it is not necessary that I should become president. Whatever decision the high command takes will be final," he said.

His remarks come at a time when the Congress is juggling a balancing act between the government and the organisation after the change in the chief minister's post. Political observers view the KPCC presidency as a crucial position that could shape the party's power structure ahead of future elections.

On reports of a proposal to create a coordination or core committee comprising senior leaders to ensure organisational cohesion, Jarkiholi said the idea was not new and had been under discussion for the past three years. "The proposal existed earlier as well, but it was never implemented. It is being discussed again now. We have to wait and see what the leadership decides," he said.

Turning to cabinet expansion and restructuring, Jarkiholi said, "There is a new chief minister now, and Siddaramaiah is also there. The cabinet formation may happen in two stages. Senior leaders could find a place in the first list," he said.

Jarkiholi also strongly rejected allegations that a group of 37 legislators had signed a letter against Siddaramaiah before his resignation. Calling the claim "completely baseless", he said no such letter had been sent to the Congress high command.

"If 37 influential legislators had really signed such a document, there should have been evidence of it. No such letter exists. These are mere rumours and fabricated stories that should not be given undue importance," he said.

Hundreds of people throng Chief Minister-designate DK Shivakumar's residence in Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru, on Sunday, to congratulate him ahead of his swearing-in on Wednesday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Kharge, Rahul may attend new Cong Bhavan event

Bengaluru: Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge are likely to take part in the ground-breaking ceremony for the Congress Bhavan on Race Course Road in Bengaluru on Wednesday. The event is scheduled to be held after the swearing-in ceremony gets over at Raj Bhavan's glass house, but the exact time needs to be fixed, said CM-designate D K Shivakumar, after overseeing the preparations at the venue on Sunday. All Congress block and district presidents, MPs, current and former MLAs, presidents of frontline units, corporations and boards will be invited for the event. "The invitation letter for this programme will be given to Rahul soon," he said. **ENS**

DKS, Siddu to leave for Delhi today, bat for cabinet berths for loyalists

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister-designate DK Shivakumar and caretaker CM Siddaramaiah are leaving for New Delhi on Monday to finalise the list of council of ministers with the Congress high command, including Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

Though the power transition went off smoothly, the two leaders are likely to butt heads over the induction of their loyalists into the cabinet and prove their sway over the high command.

They are expected to present their own list of legislators to take oath along with Shivakumar at Lok Bhavan's glass house at 4.05 pm on Wednesday.

Though it is not confirmed yet, some 15-20 are likely to be sworn in and veterans who were part of the Siddaramaiah cabinet are keeping their fingers crossed. They include Dr G Parameshwara, HK Patil, KH Muniyappa, MB Patil, Eshwar Khandre, Ramalinga Reddy, Priyank Kharge, Krishna Byre Gowda, Santhosh Lad, Zameer Ahmed Khan, K Venkatesh, Shivaraj Tangadagi and Dr HC Mahadevappa.

The names of a few new faces, including AS Ponnanna, Saleem Ahmed, Speaker UT Khader, NA Haris, BK Hariprasad, TB Jayachandra, Basavaraj Rayareddy and Puttaranga are doing the rounds.

"I met CM-designate Shivakumar. I interacted with him on a few issues. It was cordial ... I came here to congratulate him and wish him all the best. The cabinet formation will be done after the chief minister goes, discusses with the high command and key leaders," former law minister HK Patil told reporters after meeting Shivakumar. MB Patil, Bangarpet MLA SN Narayanaswamy, Malavalli MLA PM Narendra Swamy and former chief whip in the Assembly Ashok Pattan also met Shivakumar.

After the swearing-in, a partial cabinet will be in place and the remaining vacancies are likely to be filled after the June 18 polls to four Rajya Sabha and seven MLC seats, sources said.

On Sunday, scores of ministerial berth aspirants, including former ministers identified with the Siddaramaiah camp, like Santhosh Lad and Mahadevappa, met Shivakumar.

First-time MLAs Basavaraj Shivaganga from Channagiri and Darshan Dhruvanarayana from Nanjangud also met their mentor.

Asked who would take oath as ministers along with him on Wednesday, Shivakumar said, "I don't know that. The party high command will decide. I will not comment on it."

YATHINDRA MEETS SHIVAKUMAR

Siddaramaiah's MLC-son Dr Yathindra, who is most likely to be sworn in as minister in the Shivakumar cabinet, called on Shivakumar at the Kumara Krupa Guest House on Sunday evening. "I am a ministerial aspirant. The high command has also assured me that I will be made a minister. I am waiting in anticipation. First, let the high command decide on inducting me as minister. I am ready to handle whichever portfolio assigned to me," he told reporters. "I had only met Shivakumar at Vidhana Soudha and somewhere on the way. I wasn't able to come to his office or home to congratulate him. So, I came to convey my wishes. No (major) discussions happened. Just a little talk about SIR and our Mysuru district politics," he added.

The Ministry of Home Affairs sanctioned 76 posts for induction of a Central Industrial Security Force security wing at the National Intelligence Grid in Yelahanka, Bengaluru. NATGRID is a national security infrastructure that aggregates data from multiple intelligence and law enforcement databases

KERALA POLICE TO SEEK ED HELP IN DRUG CASES

SHAN AS @T'Puram

EVEN as the Enforcement Directorate (ED) raids on former Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan's residences continue to spark debates and discussions, the state police have decided to actively collaborate with the central agency in probing drug cases.

The motive is to use the ED's expertise in mapping the money trail to break the financial backbone of drug syndicates. Sources told TNIE that the increased cooperation with the ED is one of the highlights of operation 'Toofan', the flagship project recently launched by the UDF government to combat drugs.

Sources said the police will seek the ED's assistance in cases which have interstate connections or international ramifications and involve a huge money transaction. Being the primary agency that has the mandate to investigate offences under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the ED can map the flow of the proceeds of crime and identify the destination where the funds reach.

"The ED is better placed to track the movement of funds and take action. They can find out in which country the proceeds of crime are parked and can initiate legal action. Being a central agency, it has more powers than the state police," said a source.

The launch of 'Operation Toofan', however, has set the stage for this collaboration. In cases that are found fit enough for the ED's intervention, the state police will either seek the agency's assistance or recommend complete takeover of the case.

"Operation Toofan relies on six pillars, including the strengthening of the financial investigation unit. If the financial ecosystem of the drug mafia can be harmed, we can say we have won one phase of the battle," the source said.

Apart from this, the police will also strengthen their own financial investigation unit to track the movement of funds for identifying financiers who bankroll drug rackets.

BRAZIL BUZZ..

With two weeks to go for the FIFA World Cup, football fans in Kochi install a flex board of Brazilian star Neymar on the rear of a bus operating on the Kakkanad–Edakochi route on Sunday | A SANESH

Six die in accident near Bagepalli

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bagepalli

THE driver and five women died, while four other women were critically injured after an SUV crashed into the autorickshaw they were travelling in on Bengaluru-Hyderabad National Highway 44 around 3 pm on Sunday.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the speeding SUV, heading from Bengaluru to Bagepalli, rammed into the autorickshaw from behind, in which nine women were travelling. The impact jolted the auto forward and it hit a stationary container lorry in front. The three-wheeler was crushed between the two vehicles causing deaths and serious injuries, Central Range Inspector General of Police S Girish told The New Indian Express.

IGP, Central range, S Girish and SP Kushal Chouksey visit the spot in NH 44

Anjinappa (35), the auto driver, and passengers Uma Devi (55), Lakshmamma (50) and Sarojamma (65) died on the spot, while Arunamma succumbed to her injuries in the hospital, said Chikkaballapur Superintendent of Police Kushal Chouksey. The severely injured Ganga Devi, Lakshmi Devi, Rathnamma and Rajamma were first treated at Bagepalli Government Hospital and later referred to Bengaluru and district hospital for treatment.

All the nine women were residents of Valmiki Nagar in Bagepalli. They were returning to their village from work when the accident occurred. Normally, farm labourers go for half-a-day of work on Sundays.

Parts of Himalayas warmer than plains

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THIS year, a reduction in snow mass has been seen. Higher altitudes are getting warmer than expected and in some cases, the temperatures are higher than in the plains. To address this, the concept of ice stupas (a grafting technique to create artificial glaciers for storing water for winters and harsh times) is being popularised," he added.

Issues in the Himalayan mountains are different and much more complex compared to other regions. They are different locally, across borders and internationally, he said.

The impact on the Indus river would be gradual and not immediate and depends on the amount of water generated from the snow fields and ice fields, experts said.

Prof Kalachand Sain, Director, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, said this year and particularly this season, the snow was less and protection the snow cover provides to glaciers has also been less. This has affected the health of glaciers, impacting water levels in local regions and in Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers. The rate at which glaciers are melting has also changed. The environment and local factors are also playing a crucial role in these changes, he added.

Experts said shifting rainfall patterns in high altitudes, ranging from 2,800 metres to 3,000-3,500 metres, is also another rising concern. They called for an urgent need to take up studies on total water levels in flowing water bodies and in glaciers, the melt out of the glaciers, the rainwater accumulation and ground water levels. There is a need to ascertain sustainability, and prepare models accordingly, they said.

EXPRESS READ

Mann Ki Baat: PM lauds B'lore Astronomical Society

Bengaluru: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his 134th Mann Ki Baat on Sunday, praised the Bangalore Astronomical Society (BAS) for its work in popularising interest in astronomy through its observation sessions. Modi was speaking about Indians' growing fascination with astronomy and organisations that are helping people indulge in it. "Their activities are visible from big cities to small towns, from schools to parks. I learned about the Bangalore Astronomical Society, where observational sessions are held. The organisation has also launched a mission to popularise astronomy in rural areas," he said. BAS president Naveen Nanjundappa said, "As an entirely volunteer-run organisation, we cannot thank this appreciation enough. The acknowledgement has made our work spanning two decades a success. We are hopeful of partnering with like-minded organisations to carry the spirit of astronomy forward in Karnataka and beyond." **ENS**

Hyd youth dies after saving 3 drowning friends

Hyderabad: A 22-year old, Anurup Reddy Koduru drowned after saving three of his friends at Toledo Bend Dam in the United States on May 29. He was a native of Abdullapurmet, Hyderabad. According to the Sabine Parish Sheriff's Office, US he drowned on May 29 afternoon. "Initial reports indicate the man was swimming with friends at the spillway near Toledo Bend Dam when he went under", officials said. He studied B Tech from Guru Nanak Institutions in Hyderabad. Later, moved to UNT for masters. **ENS**

Youth crushed during temple car festival

Namakkal: An 18-year-old engineering student died and another youth sustained injuries after they got trapped between the wheel of a huge temple chariot and a wall during the annual festival of the Arthanareeswarar Temple in Namakkal, on Sunday. The accident occurred during the procession held as part of the temple's Vaikasi Visakam celebrations. One of them, G Harshavardhan (18) of Tiruchengode, a first-year engineering student, suffered severe crush injuries. **ENS**

51 injuries on body: Toddler's autopsy exposes horrific abuse

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @T'Puram

THE one-and-a-half-year-old boy from Nedumangad in Thiruvananthapuram died after suffering weeks of horrific physical abuse that left him with over 50 injuries, including cigarette burns and wounds to his private parts, the postmortem has revealed. Arshith of Panavoor died of internal bleeding due to repeated assaults, the report said.Police on Saturday, arrested the mother, Akhila, 21, and her partner Ashkar, 31, in connection with the toddler's death. The duo were produced before the magistrate in Nedumangad on Sunday and remanded. The cops are expected to seek their custody for further interrogation and evidence collection. Ashkar, who works as a driver, confessed to assaulting the child and banging his head against a wall, officers said.

There were injuries to his private parts, scars, including those resembling cigarette burns, on his feet and fingers, and bruises on his chest – all evidence of prolonged physical assault. The autopsy also revealed recent fractures to both his arms. Ashkar had allegedly told neighbours that the injury occurred when the child fell from a bicycle.

"It is understood that the motive was to remove the child from their lives. The accused admitted to prolonged abuse. On Saturday, after being fed, the toddler vomited. By then he had already suffered extensive internal bleeding due to repeated assaults. Those injuries eventually proved fatal," Nedumangad DySP K Baijukumar, who is leading the investigation, told *TNIE*.

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED
(A Govt. of Telangana Undertaking) (Formerly Central Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Ltd.)
Corporate Office, 6-1-50, Mint Compound, Hyderabad - 63, Telangana State, India.
CIN U40109TG2000SGC034116

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE (PAPER NOTIFICATION)

TGSPDCL intends to float tenders for **Supply and Installation of materials required for Implementation of Auto Reclosure functionality in IED relays of 11kv OH Feeders in Metro Zone area of the TGSPDCL** on e-procurement platform.

For further details of above, please visit **https://tgsouthernpower.org** and **www.tender.telangana.gov.in.** Phone: 040-23431321

Sd/- **Chief Engineer (Projects)**

DIPR R.O. No.3294-PP/CL/Advt/2026-27, Dt: 30/05/2026

TUNGABHADRA BOARD: TB DAM

e-Procurement Short Term Tender Notice IFB Nos. 12/2026-27 to 13/2026-27 Dt.30.05.2026, 35/2026-27,46/2025-26, 51/2025-26 Dt.16.03.2026 (2nd Call) and 52/2025-26, 54/2025-26 Dt.18.03.2026 (2nd Call)

Tender for 07 Nos. of Works in respect of HW & HLC Division, TB Dam and LLC Division, Ballari under "Works Category" are invited through 'e-Procurement

Bid Document downloading Start Date & Time:	01.06.2026 at 11:00 AM
Bid Document downloading End Date & Time:	08.06.2026 at 3:00 PM
Bid Submission End Date & Time:	08.06.2026 at 5:30 PM
Date of opening of Commercial Stage: (for works costing below Rs.50.00 Lakhs)	08.06.2026 at 6:00 PM
Date of opening of PQ Stage: (for works costing above Rs.50.00 Lakhs)	08.06.2026 at 6:00 PM
Date of opening of Commercial Stage: (for works costing above Rs.50.00 Lakhs)	10.06.2026 at 11:00 AM

Further details can be seen @ https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in

Ph: 08394 - 259114
Email: seibtbb@yahoo.com

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
I.B, TB Board, TB Dam

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is intending to purchase the property morefully described in the schedule herein below from (i) **Smt. Kathyayini K S W/o Sri. Manjoonath K S**, as she claim that she is the absolute owner in possession of the Schedule Property, and the same is free from all encumbrances, charges, claims, or demands of whatsoever nature.Any person/s having any type of objections to the said transaction may lodge their objection/s supported by cogent documents with the undersigned within **FIFTEEN DAYS (15)** from the date of this publication. If no objection/s is/are raised within the said period, my client would go ahead with the sale transaction in respect of the Schedule Property below mentioned deeming that there is/are no objection/s from whomsoever and of whatsoever nature.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

(Description of Residential House Property)

All that Piece and Parcel of Residential Plot / Site bearing No. 184, Carved out of Survey no. 146, in the layout known as 'CONCORDE NAPA VALLEY' measuring: East to West: 9.00 meters, North to South: 15.00 meters, and totally measuring 135.00 Square meters (1453.14 Square feet) bearing Katha No. 230/184, (PID NO 150200301500300654) situated at Taralu Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, formed out of the Schedule 'A' Property and Bounded as follows: **East by :** Plot No. 183; **West by :** Plot No. 185; **North by :** Plot no. 157; **South by :** Road;

N.H. ANANTHA NARASIMHA SASTRY
Advocate,
No. 19, 10th Main, B.S.K. II Stage,
Bangalore - 70 TEL: 26715453,
M: 9845657473, 7996337260
E-Mail nhsastry9399@gmail.com

Bangalore / Dated 01-06-2026.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public are hereby informed/cautioned that, my clients **REVATHI RAJKUMAR** and **R.VISHNU GANESH** Both are Residing at.No.49, 'Sri Ganesh,12th Main Road, Srinagar, Bangalore-50 have negotiated with Sri. RAKESH PAREEK, R/a.Flat No.N-1004, SNN Raj Lakeview, 29th main, N.S.Palya, BTM Layout 2nd Stage and Sri.RAHUL GAUR, R/a.Flat No.L-1608, Raj Lakeview, 29th main, N.S.Palya, BTM Layout 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560076 to purchase the Property described in the schedule hereunder who are the absolute owners having right over the said property and if any person/s having objection to the said transaction he /she can register their claim/s with documentary proof relied upon with the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice, in person to the address stated herein below above by calling upon the mobile number:9894065065 or to the mobile number stated hereunder and placing their claims supported by documents failing which, my clients would proceed to complete the sale transaction treating that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to schedule property treating that there are no claims from any person and any claims received thereafter will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of Residential Plot of land being Site No.114 of "Vishwapriya Greeneries", BBMP Khatha no.2352/600/114, situated Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, carved out of portions of Survey no.117/4 and 117/6 which is presently coming within the revenue jurisdiction of Bangalore South City Corporation, Begur Ward and earlier BBMP limits that was originally coming under administrative jurisdiction of Begur Panchayath, Begur Hobli in Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East-West : 100 (One Hundred) feet and North-South : 60 (Sixty) feet totally measuring : 6,000 (Six Thousand) Square Feet and bounded on :
East by : 30 feet wide road,
West by : Site No.127,
North by : Site No.113,
South by : 40 feet wide Road

S.J. Kumar, Advocate,
No.6/6, 1st Floor, Kumara park West,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore - 560020
Mob : 9448234541

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited
(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
e-Mail: contracts@bmrc.co.in Website: www.bmrc.co.in
Tender No: BMRCL/Phase-2/Reach-1B Extn./Via/2026/150
Date: 01.06.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of the Managing Director/BMRCL, the General Manager (Contracts) invites open e-tenders on CPP Portal from eligible applicants, who fulfil the prescribed Eligibility Cum Qualification Criteria (EQC) for the work of **"Extension of Metro line by length of 482.80 m beyond Whitefield Metro Station in Reach-1B for Bangalore Metro Rail Project, Phase-2."** Estimated Cost of Work: **INR 62.51 Crores,** Tender fees: **INR 59,000/-.** Tender Security (EMD): **INR 62.51 Lakhs,** Download of tender documents on eProcurement (CPP) Portal: from **01.06.2026 to 29.06.2026 (up to 3.00 PM),** Period of submission of e-tenders (Online only): **23.06.2026 (From 10.00 AM) to 29.06.2026 (up to 3.00 PM),** Date and time of opening of e-tenders (Technical Bid): **30.06.2026 at 3.30 PM.,** For more details, visit eProcurement website: **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app** from **01.06.2026** onwards. The Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) will also be available in BMRCL website **www.bmrc.co.in**

Sd/- General Manager (Contracts)

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on **11-05-2026** by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due and the same was **returned by All.** Hence this.

No.1) Mrs. Lourda Mary, W/o. Late Anthoni Swamy (Legal Heir of Late Anthoni Swamy), No.24/03, 1st E Cross, Chikka Kammanahalli, Begur Hobli, Bangalore - 560083. Also At : Mrs. Lourda Mary, W/o. Late Anthoni Swamy (Legal Heir of Late Anthoni Swamy), No.68, Near St. Francis Xavier Church, Chikka Kammanahalli, Gottigere BBMP, Bangalore - 560083. No.2) Mr. Anthoni Pramod, S/o. Late Anthoni Swamy (Legal Heir of Late Anthoni Swamy), No.68, Near St. Francis Xavier Church, Chikka Kammanahalli, Gottigere, BBMP, Bangalore - 560083. No.3) Mrs. Sowmya, D/o. Late Anthoni Swamy, (Legal Heir of Late Anthoni Swamy), No.68, Near St. Francis Xavier Church, Chikka Kammanahalli, Gottigere, BBMP, Bangalore - 560083. No.4) Mrs. Pavithra, D/o. Late Anthoni Swamy (Legal Heir of Late Anthoni Swamy), No.68, Near St. Francis Xavier Church, Chikka Kammanahalli, Gottigere, BBMP, Bangalore - 560083.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Sub : Loan Account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Hulimavu Gate Branch in the name of Mrs. Lourda Mary.

The Bank issued Notice under the SARFAESI Act on **11-05-2026** calling upon Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080049674 is **Rs.12,58,928/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Eight only)** as on **06-05-2026** with further interest for 501812080049674 at **13.15%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **07-05-2026** till the date of repayment. The Notice **Sent to you by Registered Post have been returned by All.**

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080049674 is **Rs.12,58,928/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Eight only)** with further interest for 501812080049674 at **13.15%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **07-05-2026** till the the date of repayment within **60 days** from the date of this Notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the Schedule hereunder. This Notice is published/issued without prejudice to any other right/remedy available to the Bank.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to Our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Late Anthoni Swamy (Represented by Legal Heirs Mrs. Lourda Mary, Mr. Anthoni Pramod, Mrs.Sowmya & Mrs.Pavithra)

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Survey No.24/3, Khatha No.24/3, Situated at Kammanahally Grama, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Now comes under the jurisdication of BBMP. Measuring 0-01¼th Guntas in all Measuring 1,361.25 Sq.Ft. and Bounded on East by : Same Survey Number belongs to Vijaya Kumar, West by : Same Survey Number Belongs to Balaraj, North by : Road, South by : Same Survey Number belongs to Balaraj.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 01-06-2026 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur Dt., Tamil Nadu - 612001,
CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Ph. No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING

INDULGE — Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

FOCUS FEATURE

ARGENTINA REWRITES THE GLOBAL PLAYBOOK ON NICOTINE

Countries shift from WHO recommendations to FDA-Style regulatory frameworks. For India, still deliberating its own tobacco control framework, the signal is hard to ignore.

In a striking policy reversal, Argentina formally lifted their bans on e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products in April-May 2026, joining a growing bloc of nations abandoning prohibition in favour of smart, evidence-based regulation. For India, still deliberating its own tobacco control framework, the signal is hard to ignore.

Argentina's case is the starkest. After 15 years of an outright ban, Buenos Aires acknowledged the uncomfortable truth: prohibition hadn't reduced consumption, it had simply driven it underground. With no quality controls, no age verification, and no traceability, the black market thrived. The government replaced the ban with comprehensive regulatory architecture: mandatory product registration, strict ingredient disclosure, and a traceability mechanism explicitly designed to block sales to minors. The message from Buenos Aires was blunt- bans don't work; accountability does.

Bangladesh followed suit, implementing parallel controls as it opened its market, signaling that even conservative regulatory environments are pivoting toward managed access over failed prohibition.

The FDA Model Goes Global

The intellectual backbone of this shift is the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's risk-tiered regulatory framework, increasingly seen as the global gold standard over the WHO's blanket prevention approach. The FDA doesn't treat all nicotine products as equivalent. Instead, it differentiates by harm level, subjecting each product to rigorous scientific scrutiny before market access is granted. Of roughly 26 million applications, only 34 smokeless tobacco products have received approval, hardly a free-for-all.

Starting late 2025, the FDA accelerated this framework for next-generation nicotine products, with the Trump administration explicitly backing faster approvals for non-combustible alternatives. White House spokesperson Kush Desai framed it plainly - decisions will be guided by the highest standard of scientific evidence'. Marketing controls- biometric authentication, identity verification, Bluetooth-enabled age locks are baked into approved product categories.

The results on youth protection are striking. Between 2023 and 2024, FDA education campaigns prevented nearly 450,000 adolescents from initiating e-cigarette use. School-age users dropped from 5.38 million in 2019 to 1.63 million in 2024, a near 70% decline, the lowest in over a decade. Minimum purchase age was raised to 21 in 2019; ID checks for under-30s kicked in from 2024.

The WHO-FDA Fault Line

The divergence between the WHO's maximum-prevention doctrine and the FDA's calibrated harm-reduction model is more than academic- it has real trade and fiscal consequences. Countries that mechanically apply WHO guidance risk pushing persistent demand into informal channels, enlarging black markets, draining tax revenues, and paradoxically increasing youth exposure through unregulated products. The WHO's recommendations remain non-binding. The question is whether rigid adherence serves public health goals or undermines them.

What This Means for India

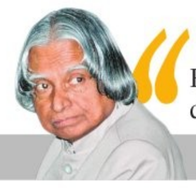
India sits at a crossroads familiar to Argentina not long ago. The 2019 ban on e-cigarettes addressed legitimate youth protection concerns, but enforcement gaps have allowed a shadow market to expand. As India constructs its next regulatory phase, the international evidence increasingly points in one direction: conditional, risk-stratified regulation outperforms prohibition on every measurable outcome- youth access, market transparency, smuggling control, and tax compliance.

"Harm reduction is not a new concept in public health, we use it in infectious disease, in substance use, and in occupational medicine. The question for nicotine policy is whether a risk-stratified regulatory model, with robust age-verification, product registration, and ingredient disclosure, produces better measurable outcomes than prohibition alone. The data from the United States, particularly the near 70% decline in school-age e-cigarette use between 2019 and 2024 under the FDA's structured framework, warrants serious academic attention in India. We should be guided by outcomes, not by the regulatory philosophy we started with," says Dr Chandrakant S Pandav, Former Professor and Head of the Centre for Community Medicine at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

"The global evidence is becoming increasingly difficult to set aside. Combustible tobacco remains the single largest preventable cause of lung disease in India, and our primary obligation as clinicians is to reduce that burden by the most effective means available. What the Argentine and FDA data suggest is that blanket prohibition, without a parallel enforcement and traceability infrastructure, can inadvertently consolidate demand into unregulated black markets which, from a clinical standpoint, is arguably a worse outcome than a tightly controlled legal market. India's policymakers would benefit from a careful, evidence-led review of these outcomes before finalising the next phase of our tobacco control framework," says Dr Mohsin Wali, Senior Consultant Physician & Cardiologist, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi.

Argentina didn't abandon health goals. It chose a more effective path to achieve them. India's policymakers would do well to study both the 15-year failure that preceded Argentina's reversal- and the robust framework that replaced it.

EDITORIAL



"Failure will never overtake me if my determination to succeed is strong enough" — APJ Abdul Kalam

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

JUSTICE MUST NOT WAIT: SC FIXES TIMELINES FOR PRONOUNCING VERDICTS

BY recently directing all high courts to pronounce judgements within three months of reserving orders, the Supreme Court has created a framework aimed at reducing pendency. Writing for the Bench, Chief Justice Surya Kant avoided naming and shaming errant courts while stressing judicial deliberation. The guidelines were issued after studying a report on judicial delays as of May 5, 2025. A division bench of the Jharkhand High Court was sitting on 56 matters, including criminal appeals, after completing hearings between January 4, 2022 and December 16, 2024. Likewise, a single-judge bench of the same court had reserved orders on 11 matters despite hearing them between July 25, 2024 and September 27, 2024. Finding itself under the Supreme Court's scrutiny, the same high court moved swiftly, pronouncing judgements in over 75 criminal appeals within a week.

The Supreme Court's move was much needed. The wait for final judgements delayed everything, testing the patience of parties and affecting the judicial system. Reserved judgements left pending for months, or years, undermine confidence and prolong uncertainty after hearings conclude.

The apex court's verdict urged high courts to be more empathetic in matters of personal liberty, such as regular bail, anticipatory bail, criminal appeals and death references. The guidelines mandated that courts preferably pronounce and upload orders on the same day the bail hearing concludes. Orders granting regular bail, suspending sentence or acquitting a convict in custody must be communicated to jail authorities and the trial court on the date of pronouncement. An undertrial or convict granted relief must be released on the same day or the next day, unless required to stay in custody in another case. Where orders are reserved, a reasoned judgement should be pronounced within three months, with remedies prescribed if the threshold is crossed. In urgent matters, the operative part may be pronounced and the full verdict uploaded within 7-15 days.

The judgement strengthens litigants' ability to hold the higher judiciary accountable for delays. Equally important, it recognises excessive judicial delay as a violation of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution. It also underlines that justice is complete only when judgements are delivered. By setting timelines, the court has acknowledged that delayed decisions can themselves become a source of pendency. Courts are institutions of trust; timely rulings are essential to sustaining public confidence.

KARNATAKA'S WAGE HIKE NEEDS DELICATE BALANCE

KARNATAKA'S labour force has reason to cheer. The state government has revised minimum wages for 2026-27 by a substantial 60 percent and introduced a uniform variable dearness allowance of ₹174.97 per day across all skill categories. Effective April 1, wages range from ₹23,376 for unskilled labourers to ₹31,114 for highly skilled workers, making Karnataka the state with the highest minimum wages in India. The revision, based on the Consumer Price Index, complies with a Supreme Court order and is to be implemented strictly across industries. Wages remain zone-based, with metro areas attracting the highest pay and towns and rural areas lower rates. In a first, 81 scheduled categories have been brought under a single notification covering workers in the unorganised sector, e-commerce and courier services, religious institutions, private educational institutions, artisan trades, poultry farms, and the coir and cane industries.

While trade unions have welcomed the restructuring as long overdue, it has set alarm bells ringing in industry, particularly among labour-intensive units and the hotel and restaurant sector. Industry bodies argue that the increase will raise costs and could force businesses to shut down, scale back operations or relocate to neighbouring Tamil Nadu and Telangana, where wages are lower. The timing is also inconvenient. Businesses are already grappling with rising diesel and LPG prices, along with higher freight and transportation costs. The hospitality industry, a major revenue generator, says it has little choice but to pass the burden on to consumers, a move bound to affect both eating out and food delivery demand.

Karnataka is the fourth state to revise wages. In Delhi, monthly wages range from ₹20,358 for labourers to ₹27,144 for highly skilled workers. In Uttar Pradesh, wages range from ₹13,000 to ₹16,868, while Haryana pays between ₹15,220 and ₹19,426. Karnataka may appear the most generous and the new wage order promises greater equity and a better quality of life for those at the bottom of the ladder. But it should not become self-defeating by triggering layoffs or mass unemployment. A distressed industrial sector does not bode well for an economy already under strain. Industry bodies have suggested separate wage slabs for smaller businesses, setting up a wage committee and subsidies to cushion the impact. The state government could be forced to strike a balance by providing financial support to industry or reallocating benefits under its guarantee schemes.

QUICK TAKE

CULTURAL COLLISION

WHEN actor Ananya Panday performed a Bharatanatyam-inspired sequence in her latest film *Chand Mera Dil*, purist cultural commentators reacted with visible dismay online. Many argued the performance turned a sacred classical tradition into stylised spectacle, detached from its spiritual and artistic depth. The backlash reflects wider cultural anxieties in modern India. Younger audiences are increasingly shaped by global digital culture, where visual intensity, speed and glamour dominate popular entertainment. Classical dance, by contrast, asks for patience, discipline and emotional inwardness developed over years of practice. The debate around Panday's performance ultimately points to a growing divide between the spiritual refinement of traditional Indian art and the commercial sensuality shaping contemporary popular culture.

Vijay's popularity gives him influence across the Palk Strait. He now faces the challenge of turning goodwill into progress on Tamil rights, fisheries disputes and refugee concerns

REIMAGINING SRI LANKA-TN TIES IN THE AGE OF VIJAY

DILRUKSHI HANDUNNETTI

Award-winning journalist and lawyer; founder and director of Colombo-based Center for Investigative Reporting

FOR two decades, Sri Lankans have embraced iconic actor Thalapathy Vijay—Chandrasekaran Joseph Vijay—as one of their own. Cinema audiences across the island admire Vijay, whose popularity has often transcended ethnic and linguistic divides. This broad acceptance offers him a unique platform from which to contribute, at least indirectly, to a stronger understanding between Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka.

While the path appears open for the new leader, Sri Lankans who have long admired Vijay, the film star, may view his emergence as a political figure through a different lens.

Vijay's rise in politics cannot be attributed to stardom alone, although his popularity and effective use of social media have undoubtedly contributed to his success. It also reflects wider political currents across South Asia. In recent years, several countries in the region have witnessed significant political churn driven by public discontent, youth mobilisation and demands for political renewal. Social media has played an important role in amplifying these trends. While India's political landscape is distinct, Vijay and his Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam have emerged as an alternative for voters seeking options beyond the traditional Dravidian parties, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

What remains unclear is whether Vijay will follow the political path laid down by leaders such as M G Ramachandran and J Jayalalithaa or seek to carve out a distinct space of his own. Both leaders, at different points, shaped public discourse on the Sri Lankan Tamil question and adopted positions that reflected prevailing sentiments in Tamil Nadu regarding the conflict and the aspirations of Sri Lankan Tamils.

Vijay will need to navigate carefully the intersection of geography, ethnicity and politics. The distance between Arichal Munai in India and Talaimannar in Sri Lanka is barely 55 kilometres. Northern Sri Lankan Tamils have historically looked to Tamil Nadu for cultural affinity and moral support. During the armed conflict, political leaders in Tamil Nadu drew attention to allegations of discrimination, humanitarian concerns and the plight of civilians. Some also expressed support for greater autonomy and political rights for Sri Lankan Tamils. While overt support for separatist causes diminished significantly after the assassination of former Indian prime minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991, the situation of Sri Lankan Tamils remains a subject of periodic discussion in Tamil Nadu, informed by historical, cultural and familial connections between the two regions.

SOURAV ROY

Vijay presents himself as someone who takes pride in his Tamil identity and has expressed solidarity with Sri Lankan Tamils. He has spoken about questions of justice, rehabilitation, resettlement and equal rights. These remain matters of continuing concern, particularly amid ongoing debates about reconciliation and post-war recovery in Sri Lanka. At the same time, references to political ideas associated with the conflict years are likely to be viewed differently on either side of the Palk Strait and require careful handling.

In the run-up to the Tamil Nadu elections, Vijay stirred debate by advocating the recovery of Katchatheevu, an islet ceded to Sri Lanka in 1974. He questioned the Centre's position on the issue and criticised the Congress for agreeing to the transfer. The remarks generated discussion in northern Sri Lanka, where fishing communities have long viewed the island as part of their traditional fishing environment. Even today, Tamil Nadu fishermen are permitted to dry their fishing nets on Katchatheevu, while Indian and Sri Lankan fishers come together annually for the St Anthony's Church festival on the island.

While there is little prospect of revisiting the island's status, the debate has once again highlighted the sensitivity of Sri Lanka-related issues in Tamil Nadu politics. The more immediate challenge lies in the longstanding fisheries dispute. During the years of conflict, restrictions on fishing in northern Sri Lankan waters created opportunities for fishermen from Tamil Nadu. Over time, the presence of Indian trawlers in Sri Lankan waters increased, leading to recurring disputes. Sri Lankan authorities regularly detain fishermen for alleged illegal entry into their waters and seize boats and fishing equipment. Sri Lankan officials and fishing communities have also raised concerns about bottom trawling, a method of fishing prohibited in Sri Lanka due to its impact on marine ecosystems.

Vijay's government has sought greater engagement from New Delhi on the recurring arrests of Indian fishermen and the seizure of boats and equipment. While any durable resolution ultimately depends on bilateral engagement between India and Sri Lanka, advocacy by the Tamil Nadu government can help ensure that the concerns of affected fishing communities remain on the policy agenda.

Then there is the sensitive question of how support for Tamil rights is distinguished from attitudes towards the LTTE. Vijay has consistently spoken about the rights, dignity and welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils. At times, however, statements or symbolism associated with the conflict years have prompted debate about the legacy of the LTTE in Tamil political discourse. The organisation emerged during a period of deep ethnic conflict and came to dominate the Tamil militant movement. Its legacy remains deeply contested, shaped both by its articulation of Tamil grievances and by its involvement in violence, including attacks on civilians and political leaders. For contemporary political leaders, the challenge lies in advocating justice and equality for Sri Lankan Tamils while avoiding the revival of divisions associated with the conflict.

When the war escalated in the 1980s, Tamil Nadu received large numbers of refugees from Sri Lanka, and many continue to reside there today. As chief minister, Vijay is well placed to support policies that assist those wishing to return to Sri Lanka while also addressing the concerns of those who have built lives in India and seek a long-term future there.

As Tamil Nadu's chief minister, Vijay will not determine India's Sri Lanka policy. Yet he occupies a position from which he can influence public discourse, advocate for the welfare of fishermen and refugees, and encourage stronger economic, cultural and people-to-people links across the Palk Strait. If approached pragmatically, these areas offer an opportunity to build trust and contribute positively to relations between the two neighbours.

(Views are personal)
(dilrukshi@cir.lk)

THE PAARI PRINCIPLE

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

IT'S World Environment Day on June 5, and many thoughts flood the mind of our relationship with Nature. '*Paari and the Jasmine*' is a favourite story from the ancient Tamil Sangam era. It vivified my childhood with its touching message and the values it conveyed, not by preaching but by shining example.

King Vel Paari ruled the lush, mountainous kingdom of Parambu Nadu, stretching from today's Sivaganga district in Tamil Nadu to Palakkad in Kerala. Valour and talent were celebrated in his land and generosity was valued as the greatest virtue. Love and appreciation of the good earth and its gifts were a life code. A tough soldier, Paari was also a sensitive person. He loved poetry and music. Singers and poets were drawn to him, including the feisty old lady Avvai, who wandered all over the land scolding backsliding kings—scholars now wonder if 'Avvai' was in fact a consolidation of three ancient women poets. Whatever the case may be, her poems and aphorisms are still recited 2,000 years later.

One day, Paari was out in his horse-drawn chariot when he saw a delicate *mullai* or jasmine creeper lying on the ground. Someone had cut down the tree that had supported it and abandoned the creeper to its fate. Paari was upset to see the prettily-flowering, sweet-smelling creeper lying forlorn in the dust, left to be trampled on and die. "This is not right," he thought. There was no sure way that he could uproot the creeper and give it the prop of another tree or fetch another support for it. So Paari detached his golden chariot, draped the creeper over it and went home on foot, leading his horses. He did not see it as a waste but as a necessary duty fulfilled. My granny used to say that at its deeper level, this incident was a poetic teaching story about helping all helpless beings—plant, animal or human.

This deeply ingrained sense of being part of Nature and being responsible for it was also expressed in seemingly miraculous ways. For instance, it's an old Indian belief that there are certain holy men who can make it rain simply by their lustrous personalities. In the *Ramayana*, sage Rishyashringa is said to have made the rain fall on parched land merely by his presence. As recently as the 20th century, the late M G Ramachandran, when chief minister of Tamil Nadu, reportedly besought Kanchi Mahaswami, a luminous sage revered across the South with devotees even from far lands like the King and Queen of Spain and Princess Irene of Greece, to save Tamil Nadu from a blistering drought. The saint was on a *padayatra* in Karnataka at the time but felt duty-bound to return at once to Tamil Nadu. The story goes that soon after he crossed the border into the state, grey clouds began gathering out of nowhere in the burning sky, and it actually rained.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

> Indian culture revels abundantly in nature. Good intentions to build a cordial society are believed to be framed by nature, which is why Indian festivals follow seasons and festival foods reflect rootedness in the land. Even grass is valorised through story and craft

Such personalities are part of the legitimate lore of the land and give us a personal standard of behaviour, an affirmation that good thoughts and good deeds enable the well-being of a country and its people. Further, if we look closely at the Indian calendar, we'll see that amid the busy timetable of holy days, there's a conscious plan to bond society by providing many festive opportunities to interact pleasantly.

The best *punya* or merit gained on a holy day is when we are friendly and affectionate to all, and don't shortchange those to whom we owe money and manners. So the *punya* is of two kinds—one gained by doing the good things that build a cordial society and the other by not doing the bad things that vitiate the atmosphere.

These good intentions are framed by Nature, which is why Indian festivals follow the seasons, and festival foods reflect our rootedness in the land. Even grass is valorised through story and craft.

Grass figures in at least four incidents in the *Ramayana*. The first is at Chitrakoot, where Jayanta, a son of Indra, becomes a crow and attacks Sita when Rama is resting with his head on her lap. Sita's blood drips on Rama, waking him. He charges a blade of grass with a mantra and sends it after the crow, which ultimately seeks sanctuary at his feet.

Lakshmana uses kusa grass to thatch the perfect cottage that he builds at Panchavati. Sita, trembling with fear but staunchness personified, places a blade of grass between herself and Ravana in the Ashokavana. And heartbreakingly, Rama makes himself a mat of grass by the seashore on which to undertake *prayopavesa* or a severe fast to entreat Varuna, lord of the waters, to help him cross to Lanka.

As just one exquisite instance in national life, Bihar's golden Sikki grass is used to make baskets, boxes, trays, toys and hanging mobiles. Sikki-ware, available online, adds refinement, colour and beauty to urban Indian homes. Rural brides in the Mithila region are said to weave dainty boxes from Sikki grass for their trousseau, and it's a skill to be proud of.

Also, fine, silky mats, called *paai* in Tamil, have been made for centuries from Korai, the river grass on the banks of the Kaveri. I remember, as a child, seeing that Tamil newlyweds were given these mats with their names and wedding date in English woven into the design.

Our culture revels abundantly in Nature. We could easily do so, too, if we but make the resolve and show our bounteous land some love.

(Views are personal)
(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

New innings

Ref: *Siddaramaiah speaks an old riddle* (May 31). Sidda is an old warhorse and has preferred to stay glued to state politics. Language is neither an advantage nor an impediment to move to Delhi, as evidenced by the successful tenure of DMK politicians. He will remain a potent force in the state, much to the discomfiture of D K S.
Rajarao Kumar, Bengaluru

Ethics onus

Ref: *Pope's present ponderables* (May 30). The metaphysical conflict between science and religion can be resolved with a little bit of theological flexibility. All the three threats humanity faces today—nuclear, AI and environment—is because science lacks a moral compass. Nor do politicians or capitalists. Religious institutions, however, continue to push for ethics. Don't muzzle the ox that is treading the grain!
Oscar Priyanand, Secunderabad

Food security

Ref: *Resilient India* (May 31). The double whammy has caused India to face both external challenges and internal food inflation caused by a reduced agricultural output. India needs to be resilient and manage them with long-term growth input.
N R Nagarajan, Sivakasi

Digital infra

Ref: *3,765 students miss CUET* (May 31). The incident highlights serious concerns about the reliability of India's digital testing system. It shows the need for stronger technical infrastructure, better backup systems and clearer communication during emergencies.
Muhammed Fasi, Kozhikode

Widened access

Ref: *AI chatbot to help register grievances* (May 31). The launch of Samadhan Didi is a good initiative. This will be useful for many citizens, especially those who find it difficult to write complaints in English or Hindi. Such efforts can make government services easier and more accessible for everyone.
Shamil Ezhuthumthodi, email

War casualties

Ref: *Anatomy of fuel prices* (May 31). The common public richly deserves to share the profit margins of oil marketing companies as well as the cesses paid by them to the central government when they are in 'dire straits'. Somehow, it's the people who become the first casualty to any chokes in the global oil trade system.
T M Uday Shankar, Hyderabad

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**
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POSTS OF THE DAY

Pawan Khera @Pawankhera
Any other government, any other PM, any other minister would have responded more sensitively to a scam that destroys the future of millions of youth.

Aaditya Thackeray @AUThackeray
They cannot conduct even a simple exam properly, and yet everyone is supposed to believe that they hold fair elections—this is ridiculous!

Yogi Adityanath @myogiadityanath
On the occasion of World No Tobacco Day, let us all resolve to stay away from tobacco and inspire others to do the same in order to build a healthy society.

Japan suggests new Quad agenda, proposes defence ministers' meet in India

JAVARIA RANA @ New Delhi

Japanese Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi

JAPAN'S Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi on Sunday made a pitch for a Quad defence ministers' meeting in India, signalling Tokyo's intent to deepen the grouping's security agenda beyond the foreign ministers' level.

"Recently our foreign minister visited India for the Quad. It would be great if we could have that for defence ministers. Defence cooperation could be an area we can work together...it would be good to visit India to have that kind of dialogue. I want to energise Quad to the next step," Koizumi said on the sidelines of the 23rd IISS Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore.

The proposal comes at a time when the Quad is making efforts to be seen as a forum for practical cooperation rather than a military alliance, particularly in the context of Washington recalibrating its ties with Beijing.

China has consistently described the grouping as an "Asian NATO" aimed at containing its rise, a characterisation the four member nations have repeatedly rejected.

Last week, India hosted the 11th Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi, where the four nations launched the Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Collaboration, or IPMSC, a new initiative to coordinate maritime surveillance across the Indo-Pacific.

The IPMSC will use latest technologies to build on the existing Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness framework (IPMDA), enabling member countries to share real-time information and get a more comprehensive picture of vessel movements in the region. The initial focus will be the Indian Ocean Region.

MEA's Additional Secretary Nagraj Naidu, speaking at a press conference after the meeting, addressed concerns about the grouping's expanding security footprint. "This is the Quad, the IPMSC. Surveillance should not be seen as militarisation of the Quad. Neither is IPMDA," he said.

PM chairs BJP's poll panel meet to devise RS strategy

Party, NDA allies hopeful of winning 17 of 24 seats across 10 states

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

FILE PHOTO

Meeting attended by party bigwigs including Shah
The meeting was attended by Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, BJP president Nitin Nabin, and Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha J P Nadda, among others. This will be the second round of Rajya Sabha elections this year, following the first phase held on March 17 for 37 seats in 10 states.

A meeting of the BJP's Central Election Committee (CEC), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Sunday deliberated on candidates for the Rajya Sabha elections to be held on June 18 for 24 seats across 10 states.

The meeting was attended by Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, BJP president Nitin Nabin, and Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha J P Nadda, among others. This will be the second round of Rajya Sabha elections this year, following the first phase held on March 17 for 37 seats in 10 states.

A third round is likely to be held in November.

The terms of 11 BJP Rajya Sabha MPs are ending this time, and the party is expected to retain a significant number of these seats. According to party estimates, the BJP and its NDA partners are projected to secure 17 of the 24 Rajya Sabha seats. The BJP expects to win four seats in Gujarat, two of the three seats in MP, three in Rajasthan, one seat in Andhra Pradesh, either through support from the TDP or Jana Sena Party, two in Manipur, one in Arunachal Pradesh, and potentially one seat in Karnataka. Rajya Sabha elections are scheduled for four seats in Andhra Pradesh, four in Gujarat, two in Jharkhand, three in MP, one in Manipur, one in Meghalaya, three in Rajasthan, four in Karnataka, one in Mizoram and one in Arunachal Pradesh.

The CEC also reviewed candidatures for Legislative Council elections in Bihar and other states. The biennial election for 16 seats of Maharashtra Legislative Council (MLC) is set to be held on June 18. After the meeting, the CEC approved the names of candidates for Maharashtra MLC seats from the local authorities' constituencies. In Bihar, the MLC seat became vacant after resignation of former Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Meanwhile, the BJP's OBC Morcha on Sunday held a meeting of to discuss plans for taking the NDA government's achievements over the past 12 years to the grassroots level. The meeting was chaired by BJP OBC Morcha national president K Laxman.

INSIDER TRACK

Lunch meet that changed the chair

As Karnataka moves towards a smooth power transition on June 3, Congress insiders say the decisive breakthrough on D K Shivakumar's elevation came not in a formal meeting last week, but over Rahul Gandhi's lunch with Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. Both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar had been summoned to Delhi by the high command, with discussions centred on a cabinet reshuffle and MLC nominations. Aides say Rahul's first meeting with Siddaramaiah offered no hint of a leadership change, leaving the latter reassured. Rahul returned for another round after lunch, having conferred with Sonia and Priyanka. This time, he reportedly asked the CM to step aside, leaving him stunned. Insiders say Sonia and Priyanka's intervention ultimately settled the vexing matter.

Electric arrival triggers banter

A light-hearted exchange between two Union Ministers stole the spotlight after Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary's interaction with the state's MPs at Ashoka Hotel in New Delhi. As leaders gathered at the departure porch following the meeting, JD(U) leader Rajiv Ranjan Singh, better known as Lalan Singh, noticed that BJP leader Giriraj Singh's vehicle had just arrived. What caught his attention was that the car was a brand-new electric model. Lalan Singh jokingly reminded his colleague of PM Narendra Modi's advice against purchasing new vehicles as part of austerity measures. The Minister was heard clarifying that he bought the vehicle six months before the advisory, drawing laughter from those present.

Congress Rajya Sabha race widens

As Rajya Sabha nominations draw closer, Congress circles buzz with speculation. Among the names in circulation is Andhra Pradesh Congress chief Y S Sharmila, who could secure a seat in the Upper House from Karnataka, where the party is expected to win three seats. One seat appears reserved for Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge. Karnataka minister K J George is also in contention, insiders saying he is not keen on continuing in the state government. Lobbying remains intense in Jharkhand, where Congress is expected to secure one of two seats. Pawan Khera, Rajesh Thakur, Dhiraj Prasad Sahu and Subodh Kant Sahay remain under discussion, while state Congress in charge K Raju's preference for a local face keeps the contest open.

Repatriation with a message

The premature repatriation of CBI Joint Director Vidya Jayant Kulkarni to her Tamil Nadu cadre is being viewed in official circles as more than a routine administrative decision. The Centre's order places her under the "extended cooling off" provision in paragraph 14.2 of the IPS Tenure Policy, a condition that senior police officers say makes the move unusual. While the official reason cited is personal grounds, attention has turned to the timing of the transfer, coming soon after the formation of the Vijay government. Officials believe Kulkarni's experience in a premier central agency could prove useful to the new administration. There is also a view that she could serve as an important channel of coordination between Chennai and New Delhi.

Top cop wait gets longer in Punjab

Punjab's wait for a regular DGP continues, with the tenure of officiating DGP Gaurav Yadav extending since July 2022, after the then police chief V K Bhawra proceeded on leave. Despite judicial attention to the matter, the appointment process remains stalled. The UPSC has reportedly sought details from Punjab on the current status of pending cases involving Sharad Satya Chauhan, presently the Director, Punjab Vigilance Bureau. A clarification has been sought before convening the empanelment committee, which will shortlist three names for the post. Chauhan is the senior-most among the 14 IPS officers whose names Punjab forwarded on April 6. The query follows a CBI probe linked to an alleged bribery case involving Chauhan's reader, Inspector O P Singh Rana.

Preserving cultural heritage govt's top priority, says Modi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

CITING the recent repatriation of ancient Chola-era copper plates from the Netherlands, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday reiterated his government's commitment to safeguarding India's cultural heritage. Addressing the people during his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat, he said the government was making sustained efforts to recover and preserve the country's invaluable historical treasures.

On the return of the ancient copper plates, Modi said, "Recently I had the opportunity to visit the Netherlands in Europe. I attended several meetings there. During this time, a moment arrived that filled every Indian with pride. In a special ceremony held in the Netherlands, ancient copper plates from the Chola period were returned to India."

Highlighting the cultural and historical significance of the copper plates, he said, "There is a lot of curiosity among people about these copper plates. These include 21 large and 3 small copper plates. They primarily relate to King Rajendra Chola the first, fulfilling a vow made by his father, King Rajaraja Chola. They mention the donation of the village of Anaimangalam to a Buddhist monastery. These copper plates also describe the achievements of the Chola dynasty and reveal how formidable the Chola Empire's maritime power was."

Expressing his concern over the ongoing heatwave, the PM also urged citizens to take precautions and suggested simple and traditional methods of staying cool during the summer months. During the programme, he spoke about astronomy, interacted with sportspersons and highlighted wildlife conservation efforts.

Touching upon astronomy, the PM said centuries-old observatories still exist across India. "Astronomy has aroused curiosity in every generation in our country. It has inspired exploration; a lot of enthusiasm is visible in today's youth," he said.

Emphasising his government's efforts towards cultural preservation, he asserted, "Our government is continuously making efforts to preserve such priceless heritage sites of India. In this regard, an important discovery has been made in Malhar, Chhattisgarh, under the Gyan Bharatam Abhiyan.

Precautions important during heatwave, says Modi
Expressing his concern over the ongoing heatwave, the PM also urged citizens to take precautions and suggested simple and traditional methods of staying cool during the summer months. During the programme, he spoke about astronomy, interacted with sportspersons and highlighted wildlife conservation efforts.

'Cong should understand its function in INDIA bloc': CPI calls for alliance unity

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

AMID growing strains within the opposition INDIA bloc following the fallout between two of its key constituents, the Congress and the DMK, CPI general secretary D Raja on Sunday called for greater trust, unity, and accommodation among alliance partners, asserting that this is not the time to discuss the formation of a third front.

D Raja

The rift among the opposition ranks widened as DMK and AAP recently came out in support of CPM while raising questions over Congress's position following ED searches linked to former Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan.

Speaking to this paper, Raja said that the INDIA bloc parties must mount a collective fight against the BJP, and every constituent of the alliance should recognise this. "As the largest party in the bloc, the Congress should have a proper understanding of its responsibilities. Political parties must rise above their differences and stand together as a united force," he added.

Raja acknowledged that the alliance was currently facing coordination challenges due to tensions between the Congress and the DMK over political developments in Tamil Nadu.

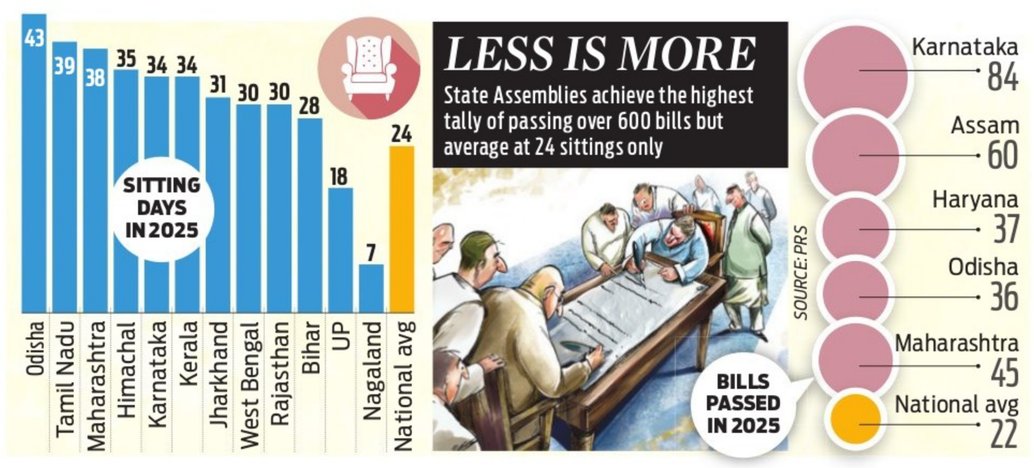
"The bloc is facing a difficult phase as two of its principal parties are not on the same page on issues related to Tamil Nadu. There needs to be greater unity, mutual trust, and accommodation among all partners," he said.

The two-decade-old ties between DMK and Congress ended after Congress aligned with the TVK-led front in TN after the recent assembly election. The bloc has also come under severe strain as several of its key constituents, including TMC, DMK, and Left parties, suffered debilitating defeat in assembly polls.

Last week, TMC chief Mamata Banerjee said that a meeting of alliance leaders is likely next month.

Assemblies sat less, passed more bills in '25: Study

VISMAY BASU @ New Delhi



STATE legislatures across India passed more than 600 bills in 2025, their highest tally in recent years, yet assembled for an average of just 24 days and sent fewer than one in twenty bills to committees for scrutiny, according to the PRS Annual Review of State Laws 2025, which covered 27 states and three Union Territories.

The Jharkhand assembly, as shown by this report, functioned for 21 long years without having a deputy speaker. According to Article 178 of the Indian Constitution, all the assemblies are mandated to have a full-time deputy speaker for all the sessions.

Further, this report showed that, in 2025, the different state assemblies met for 24 days on average. Odisha topped this list—with 43 sitting days. Nagaland assembly, with only 7, was at the bottom of the list. The national average of 24 days is an improvement over 21 days in 2024 and 23 days in 2023 but still falls well short of the targets that states have set for themselves in law or procedure.

Roughly 30 per cent of bills, according to this report, were passed on the day of their introduction onto the floor of the House. Legislatures of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Mizoram, Puducherry and Punjab passed every bill either on the same day or the next.

Karnataka cleared 17 bills in a single sitting. Similar divergence was observed in the discussion of the budget oversights. Assemblies across the country, on average, debated their budgets for 8 days. Tamil Nadu debated on this for 27 days, while Punjab wrapped it up within two. Goa, Haryana and Tamil Nadu were the states where, in the assembly, 100 per cent of proposed expenditure was placed before the House for discussion. But, in Assam, only 23 per cent of the expenditure plans were put to debate.

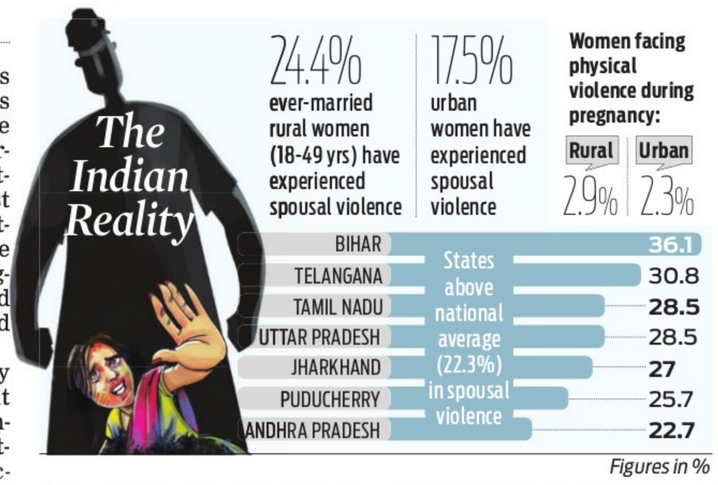
Sixty-six per cent of the bills received assent from the governor within one month, while 94 per cent did within three.

States issued 127 ordinances in 2025, up from 100 in 2024, a 27 per cent rise. Local governance accounted for 31 per cent of all ordinances, trailed by education at 13 per cent. The legislative calendar was similarly weighted: local governance, education and taxation together formed 45 per cent of all Bills. Thirteen states established new universities. Karnataka and Tamil Nadu moved against coercive microfinance lenders.

Several states enacted Jan Vishwas-style laws converting criminal penalties into civil ones. Karnataka tabled both a hate speech and hate crimes bill and a crowd control bill. Assam passed an anti-polygamy law and reserved 25 per cent of private university seats for state students.

Rural areas more hostile to married women than urban centres: NFHS-6

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi



WOMEN living in rural areas in the age group of 18-49 years face spousal violence more than their counterparts in urban areas, according to the latest NFHS-6 data. It is not just spousal violence; women, mostly in rural areas, experience physical violence during pregnancy, and young women aged 18-29 years have experienced sexual violence by age 18.

Though, the National Family Health Survey-6 shows that more women have become empowered from being internet literate, holding more bank accounts, to having their own mobile phones, states have reported rising violence—both physical and sexual violence—against women living in rural areas. However, there are states like Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Mizoram, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, and Puducherry where urban women face more spousal violence than those in rural areas.

According to the NFHS-6 data, which was released on Friday, gender-based violence in India saw a dip of nearly 7% from 29.2% in 2019-21 to 22.3% in 2023-24. It also showed that ever-married women aged 18-49 years who have ever experienced spousal violence dipped from 29.2% to 22.3%, with rural (24.4%) women facing more violence compared to urban women (17.5%). Also, ever-married women aged 18-49 years who have experienced physical violence during any pregnancy saw a slight dip from 3.1% to 2.7%; again, rural women faced it more (2.9%) as compared to urban women (2.3%).

As per data, some states, mostly southern states, saw spousal violence against women more than national average. While most states reported a reduction since 2021, states and UTs like Kerala, Mizoram, Goa, Lakshadweep, and Andaman and Nicobar Island saw a hike.

TIFFANY IN RAJ

Tiffany Trump, younger daughter of US President Donald Trump, visited the Sonar Fort in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer on Sunday as part of her India trip with her husband Michael Boulos.

1 KILLED AS CAR CRASHES INTO TRUCK IN MAHA's BEED

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	39	27	Mumbai	33	30
Bhopal	35	24	Panaji	33	28
Jaipur	36	26	Patna	37	28
Amritsar	37	27	Lucknow	34	27
Chennai	36	29	Port Blair	29	27
Kolkata	36	29	Imphal	26	22
Srinagar	28	14	Chandigarh	34	26

60 of 80 TMC legislators skip meeting at Didi home

Meeting called off, party says police framing its MLAs in false cases

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

ONLY 20 out of 80 Trinamool Congress MLAs turned up at a meeting called at former CM Mamata Banerjee's house in Kalighat on Sunday, leading to its cancellation, party sources said, a development that indicates growing discontent among legislators after the party's debacle in the West Bengal assembly elections.

The meeting was called by Sobhanbdeb Chatterjee, TMC legislative party leader in the Assembly. Explaining the fiasco, the party later said the MLAs were occupied following attacks on Abhishek Banerjee and Kalyan Banerjee.

"MLAs are busy with programmes following the attack on Abhishek Banerjee on Saturday in Sonarpur. Many leaders and workers of the party were attacked during post-poll violence across districts. They are also being arrested in false cases. The meeting has been deferred due to the prevailing situation," TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said.

He said the party leaders and workers have been instructed to organise protest rallies against attacks on Abhishk and Kalyan across blocks on Monday. Ghosh also announced the party's day-long sit-in in central Kolkata, which will be led by Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday.

TMC leaders like Firhad Hakim, Nayana Bandopadhyay, Madan Mitra, Ashima Patra and Ashok Deb were present at the meeting, indicating that they are siding with Mamata during the party's crisis.

Kalyan on Sunday claimed he was hit on his head in Hooghly's Chanditala after being mobbed in front of a police station he visited to submit a memorandum against the arrest of party workers after the Assembly elections. He held BJP supporters responsible for it.

Mamata Banerjee goes to meet party leader Kalyan Banerjee on Sunday | PTI

Mamata's nephew calls attack 'state sponsored'

A day after he was attacked by a mob in South 24 Parganas district's Sonarpur, TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Sunday claimed that he was a victim of "state-sponsored terrorism." The party MP from Diamond Harbour further said that this 'terrorism' was being "unleashed by those who claim to be the guardians of nationalism."

Saini meets with Punjab preacher with eye on solo election battle

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

HARYANA CM Nayab Singh Saini paid a courtesy visit to Baba Gurinder Singh Dhillon, the chief of the Radha Soami Satsang Beas (RSSB), at the dera headquarters in Beas near Amritsar on Sunday.

This visit has a deep political significance, as the BJP in all likelihood will fight the upcoming 2027 assembly elections solo and is closely aligning with the identical visit by newly appointed Punjab BJP president Kewal Singh Dhillon.

Dera Beas claims to have millions of followers cutting across religious lines, drawing heavily from both rural and urban Sikhs and Hindus. This high-profile meeting was being described as a goodwill interaction and a courtesy call on the part of the Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini seeking the blessings and guidance of Dhillon.

Saini also interacted with locals and traders of Circular Road Market of Kapurthala. Saini said the Congress and Aam Aadmi Party are working in tandem and share similar ideologies. He also expressed concern about law and order situation during the recently held municipal polls in Punjab.

Nabin advises U'khand leaders to work for 2027 'hat-trick' in Assembly

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

WITH an eye firmly fixed on the 2027 Uttarakhand Assembly elections, the BJP is mobilising its ranks to secure a third straight electoral victory—a historic 'hat-trick'—following the three-day visit of party national president Nitin Nabin, which concluded on Saturday.

During his tour, Nabin delivered a clear message to the state's legislative assembly members against bringing out internal disagreements on social media or in public forums, insisting that any dissent or suggestions must be routed strictly through the party's internal hierarchy.

The BJP was grappling with internal unease in the state after MPs Trivendra Singh Rawat and Anil Baluni displayed sympathy toward disgruntled MLA Arvind Pandey. Following Pandey's critical questioning of the leadership, the opposition Congress capitalised on the apparent discord, aiming to exploit the ruling party's lack of cohesion and mounting political instability.

Nabin directed leaders to identify communities and demographics where the party's footprint remains weak and to strategise immediate outreach programmes. Nabin's visit was also characterised by a stern review of the party's digital presence. He reprimanded several leaders for their casual handling of social media.

The leadership is aware of the 23 constituencies the BJP lost in 2022, including segments like Yamunotri, Badrinath, Haldwani, and Khatima. Nabin has pinned the responsibility for flipping these seats on Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha MPs.

Coordination on ground

The party leadership is well aware of the 23 constituencies that the BJP had lost in 2022. Nabin has pinned the responsibility for flipping these seats on Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha MPs. The party will deploy full-time organisational workers to oversee ground-level coordination in those specific regions.

RANCHI DIARY

MUKESH RANJAN

Our correspondent in Jharkhand

mukesh.r@newindianexpress.com

AI-based tech to manage crowd at Shravani mela

For the first time, the Jharkhand government will use AI-based technologies and tools for crowd management during the Shrawani Mela, beginning on June 22 in Deoghar. Officials have directed the police department to embrace the technology for the mega event. According to officials privy to the matter, real-time information about devotees will be gathered using this technology. The machinery can also determine the actual number of devotees and the devotees in the queue, waiting for puja.

Nabin to visit J'khand ahead of RS elections

BJP national president Nitin Nabin is scheduled to visit the state on a two-day tour beginning June 6 ahead of the Rajya Sabha polls. This will be his maiden visit to the state after taking charge as the party's national president. His visit assumes political significance as it comes amid the ongoing contest for two Rajya Sabha seats from Jharkhand. Nabin is expected to hold key discussions with senior state BJP leaders and review the party's organisational and electoral strategies.

State set to introduce 50 electric buses

In a boost to the public transport system, the state government is planning to introduce electric buses across the key districts. Officials informed that the government is set to procure about 50 electric buses in the initial phase of the programme. The first batch of electric buses would be deployed in select districts to encourage environmentally friendly public transportation and reduce dependence on conventional fuel-powered vehicles. Students and elderly people will get free rides in these buses.

BJP wins three out of four civic bodies in HP

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

IN a setback for the Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu-led Congress government ahead of the 2027 Assembly polls, the BJP—the main Opposition party—won three out of the four municipal corporations in Himachal Pradesh, results of which were announced on Sunday.

The saffron party won Mandi, Dharamshala and Solan, while the ruling Congress could only manage to win Palampur. Thus, it is being seen as a morale booster for the saffron party and strengthening the opposition's position. For the ruling party, these results have triggered introspection besides providing an early indication of the political mood.

The BJP emerged victorious in the Mandi Municipal Corporation elections, winning 12 of the 14 wards, thus retaining control of the civic body for a second consecutive term. The ruling Congress managed just one ward. Meanwhile, polling was not held in Behna Ward after residents boycotted the election over local issues.

Hilly terrain, once known as a no-go Naxal zone, to see first 'fearless' census

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

BUDHA Pahad, which remained a safe haven for Maoists for three decades owing to its difficult topography and inaccessible terrains, is set to witness a fearless census this time after more than three decades.

As the region has been fully liberated from red rebels, census teams will probably enter many of the villages within the Budha Pahar region for the first time. Though the officials are reluctant to comment on the issue, locals said there are several villages under the Budha Pahar region where census teams had to face significant difficulties and were unable to reach many of the households. This time, however, the census team will collect data from every single household in the region, for which proper security arrangements have been made.

Local police have formulated a special plan to facilitate the census in Budha Pahar and other Maoist-affected areas. "As soon as the door-to-door census starts in the region, proper security arrangements will be provided to the census team so that they don't have to face any difficulty and a fearless census is done in the region," said Palamu DIG Kishore Kaushal. They are coordinating with the deputy commissioner, he added.

The DIG further informed that the security of census personnel will be monitored through a network of police pickets and police stations to ensure they face no difficulties. "Senior officials are closely monitoring the situation," said the DIG.

Security arranged for team doing headcount

As soon as the door-to-door census starts in the region, proper security arrangements will be provided to the census team so that they don't have to face any difficulty and a fearless census is done in the region, said Palamu DIG Kishore Kaushal. They are coordinating with the deputy commissioner, he added.

No terror-related fatality in J&K in May for the first time

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE month of May passed off peacefully in Jammu and Kashmir with no fatality due to terror-related incidents, according to data compiled by the South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP), which reflects improvement in security situation in the Union territory.

It is for the first time over three decades ago that May witnessed no loss of life in any terror incident or infiltration attempt. According to SATP data, 12 people have died in terror incidents in J&K this year with three deaths in January, six in February, two in March and one in April. The dead include 10 terrorists and one jawan.

"14 people died in terror-related violence in May in 2025, 7 in 2024, 14 in 2023, 38 in 2022, 16 in 2021, 28 in 2020, 37 each in 2019, 2018 and 2017, 27 in 2016, 16 in 2015, 10 in 2014, 12 in 2013, 13 in 2012, 19 in 2011, 43 in 2010, 27 in 2009, 39 in 2008, 59 in 2007, 140 in 2006, 188 in 2005, 195 in 2004, 241 in 2003, 288 in 2002, 300 in 2001 and 288 in May 2000," reveals SATP data.

According to security experts, May used to see increase in violence in J&K after lull in winter months and reopening of passes along the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) due to melting of snow. Security officials said the continued anti-terror operations and strengthening of anti-infiltration grid to prevent intrusion of terrorists have had a positive impact on the ground situation. "The local recruitment by terrorists is at an all-time low and infiltration is also at its lowest," an official said.

"All top terror outfit commanders have been killed. The terror infrastructure and support system, including the over ground workers (OGW) network, has been smashed and new recruitment has stopped," he said. Former J&K police chief S P Vaid said, "Security forces and police have worked hard to bring down terrorists' recruitment significantly."

Youth from PoK crosses LoC for love, detained

Troops on Sunday detained a man from PoK, Zeeshan Mir (22), after he crossed the LoC reportedly in pursuit of cross-border love with a local girl, Irum Bano of Tulwari village, that had blossomed on social media. In a separate incident the same day, the Army foiled an alleged exfiltration bid by apprehending three persons in the Uri sector of north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

FREEDOM FIGHTER BIRSA MUNDA LIVES IN NEW BHARAT

OPINION

RANJANA CHOPRA
Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, GoI

WHEN India recalls its great freedom fighters, one name rises from the forests of Chotanagpur with enduring moral force—Bhagwan Birsa Munda, revered as Dharti Aaba, the Protector of the Land. More than a historical figure, he remains a living symbol of dignity, resistance, and tribal self-respect. His vision—that tribal identity must be protected, equality must be meaningful, and development must reach ordinary people with justice—continues to guide India's journey towards Viksit Bharat. Today, after twelve years of renewed national emphasis on inclusive development, those ideals are shaping policy, governance, and the aspirations of a new India.

Giving the legacy its rightful place

Bhagwan Birsa Munda's legacy has long lived in the songs, stories, and collective memory of tribal communities across India. In 2021, the Hon'ble Prime Minister accorded this legacy national recognition by declaring 15th November, Birsa Munda's birth anniversary—as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas. The recognition deepened further with the observance of Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh from 15th November 2024 to 15th November 2025 to mark his 150th birth anniversary. During this period, more than two lakh events were organised, reaching over three crore citizens in a nationwide celebration of tribal pride, heritage.

Across the country, these celebrations reflected the richness and diversity of tribal life. From the Hornbill Festival in Nagaland and the Tribal Literary Festival in Kerala to the National Tribal Film Festival in Jharkhand and the Canoe Sprint Championship in Telangana, the events brought tribal culture, creativity, sport, and storytelling into the national spotlight. Together, they saw participation from more than 11 lakh tribal citizens representing distinct cultures and communities. They were declarations – that tribal heritage is a living, breathing force in shaping modern India.

Building upon twelve years of sustained and focused national efforts towards tribal empowerment and inclusion, Janjatiya Garima Utsav 2026 carries this momentum forward through four thematic weeks that together reflect the full spectrum of tribal development. The third week, in particular, focuses on a question central to India's future: how do we recognize the individuals and communities that shaped this nation, and how do we empower the next generation to carry that legacy forward?

Restoring the names that history forgot

Answering that question begins with recognising the many tribal heroes whose contributions remained absent from mainstream historical narratives for far too long. Across tribal regions, generations of educators, artists, healers, and reformers have sustained communities and preserved cultural identity. Their stories deserve a rightful place in India's national memory, and sustained efforts are now underway to document and celebrate these contributions.

Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) across the country are playing a central role in this effort by documenting oral histories, recording indigenous knowledge systems, and preserving tribal languages and cultural traditions. At present, 29 TRIs across 26 States and 3 Union Territories are engaged in this work, with 355 primers documented in 222 tribal languages. These efforts are helping preserve invaluable cultural knowledge for future generations.

The effort to restore tribal voices to the national narrative is also taking shape through Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums, envisioned as spaces of memory and recognition. Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned 11 such museums across 10 states to honour the role of tribal communities in India's freedom movement. Four museums have already been inaugurated, including those dedicated to Bhagwan Birsa Munda in Ranchi and Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh in Nava Raipur. Through these institutions, the stories of tribal heroes are being documented, celebrated and permanently woven into India's collective historical memory.

Empowering those who carry the torch

From honouring the past, the journey naturally moves towards empowering the present generation. This is most visible in the growing number of tribal students benefiting from the Ministry's scholarship programmes. In the current year alone, 26,01,979 tribal students have been supported under five scholarship schemes, with a total outlay of ₹3825.54 crore. Many are the first in their families to access higher education, carrying not only personal aspirations but the hopes of entire communities. Of this, over 56% of the current scholarship beneficiaries are women.

The expansion of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) reflects the same commitment to educational access and opportunity. The number of sanctioned EMRS institutions has increased from 167 in 2013-14 to 723 in 2025-26, a rise of over 330% - while functional schools grew from 123 to 499 during the same period. Student enrolment has also risen significantly, from 0.34 lakh to 1.56 lakh students. By providing quality residential education in tribal regions, EMRS institutions are helping build stronger educational foundations and expanding opportunities for tribal youth across the country.

These numbers reflect more than the expansion of schemes; they represent a larger structural shift. Scholarships and fellowships are investments in confidence, representation, and leadership. Our commitment is unwavering: no tribal student should be denied opportunity because of geography, background, or limited access to institutions of learning.

Women at centre: The truest expression of empowerment

Alongside this educational transformation is a significant shift in grassroots leadership led by tribal women. For generations, tribal women have been the quiet keepers of culture, natural resources, and community life – sustaining families and traditions. India is home to 5.20 crore tribal women, accounting for almost half of the total tribal population, and their leadership is becoming central to inclusive development.

At present, 4,712 VDVKs have been sanctioned, of which 3,365 are operational, benefiting over 12.9 lakh people, with women constituting more than half of the beneficiaries. These efforts are strengthening grassroots democracy while creating greater economic and social empowerment for tribal women.

The legacy that walks forward

Celebration, remembrance, education, and women's leadership together form part of a larger and continuing story, one in which tribal communities are increasingly shaping India's future with confidence and dignity. Through initiatives such as Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA) and Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN), transformative change is reaching the ground through a new paradigm of convergence and collaboration. The rise of tribal scholars, the recognition of unsung heroes, and the growing leadership of tribal women together reflect how the legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda continues to live in contemporary India.

Today, India's more than 10.5 crore tribal citizens are one of its most compelling and forward-looking chapters in the national story. They are not at the margins of national progress, but among the strongest contributors to the vision of Viksit Bharat—scholars breaking new ground, women redefining leadership, and unsung heroes finally receiving national recognition. In this journey, the legacy of Dharti Aaba walks forward.

Three killed
in a US strike on a boat in the Eastern Pacific, officials said

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	21	1	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	28	24	SNY	Melbourne	26	15	LC
Dhaka	31	19	SNY	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	21	SNY	New York	7	2	SNY
Houston	31	19	TDS	Singapore	28	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	1	-5	SNY
London	13	9	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

Israel seizes Beaufort castle in Lebanon

QLAYAA

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to push deeper into Lebanon after his military took over the medieval castle of Beaufort on Sunday, calling it a "dramatic shift" in the campaign against Hezbollah.

The Iran-backed militant group said on Sunday it targeted Israeli army positions and infrastructure in Shlomi and Nahariya in northern Israel, while air raid sirens blared in the Acre area.

WAR WATCH

Lebanon was dragged into the West Asia war on March 2 when Hezbollah fired rockets towards Israel in retaliation for the US-Israeli killing of Iran's supreme leader. A truce to halt the fighting between Israel and Hezbollah began on April 17, but has never been observed. Both sides accuse each other daily of violating the ceasefire and justify their attacks by the other's alleged breaches.

As fighting escalated in Lebanon, France said on Sunday it requested an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council, alarmed by Israel's "ever-deeper occupation of Lebanese territory".

Israeli forces used the Beaufort castle, also known as Qalaat al-Chakif, as a base during their previous two-decade occupation of southern Lebanon that ended in 2000. In a video statement released hours after the military took Beaufort, Netanyahu said "we have returned united, determined and stronger than ever".

A view of the Beaufort Castle in southern Lebanon as seen from northern Israel | AFP

"Now my directive is to deepen and expand our hold in places that were under Hezbollah's control. The capture of Beaufort is a dramatic stage and a dramatic shift in the policy we are leading." Shelling was audible and smoke rose from the surrounding area as AFP saw the Israeli flag above the castle. Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said troops had captured the historic strongpoint, which commands sweeping views of south Lebanon, as they expanded their ground operations. *AFP*

UNSC emergency meet on Israel offensive today

UNITED NATIONS: The United Nations Security Council will hold an emergency meeting at 3 pm (1900 GMT) on Monday over Israel's expanding offensive in Lebanon following its capture of the medieval Beaufort castle, diplomatic sources said. Requested by France, the session will follow a separate emergency meeting on a Russian drone crash in Romania. Meanwhile, French President Emmanuel Macron said "nothing justifies the major escalation" in south Lebanon and called for all weapons to fall silent. He also urged a swift US-Iran agreement and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.

Japan's pushback against China's new militarism charge

BEIJING/SINGAPORE

JAPAN on Sunday dismissed China's charge of "new militarism", with Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi questioning Beijing's own military expansion, including its nuclear arsenal, strategic bombers and rising defence spending.

Addressing the Shangri-La Dialogue security forum in Singapore, Koizumi defended Japan's ongoing defence modernisation and stressed that Tokyo remained committed to its post-war pacifist principles while adapting to an increasingly complex security environment in the Indo-Pacific.

"Some of you may have heard the term 'new militarism', but nothing (could be) further from the truth.

"Think about it. There is a country that has a huge arsenal of nuclear weapons and strategic bombers. Japan has neither of such weapons, and yet Japan is labelled 'new militarism'," he said in an apparent reference to China.

Koizumi said Japan's reputation as a peace-loving nation, built since the end of World War II, would not be undermined by what he described as "false claims". "Opaque military build-ups and action without clear intentions will be the cause of distrust and miscalculation," he warned, adding that Japan will implement its defence reforms "with a high degree of transparency", according to Japan's Kyodo News agency.

Opaque military build-ups and action without clear intentions will be the cause of distrust and miscalculation. Japan will implement its defence reforms "with a high degree of transparency

Shinjiro Koizumi
Japan, Defence Minister

Japan's defence modernisation includes a planned revision of key national security documents and investments in areas such as artificial intelligence, unmanned systems, cyber capabilities and space. China has repeatedly criticised Japan's military modernisation, describing it as a "dangerous rupture" of post-war pacifist tradition. Responding to a question from a Chinese delegate, Koizumi said Japan's defence policy and military build-up are not aimed at any specific country and are not intended to lead to military confrontation.

"That said, China continues to increase its defence spending at a high level and is rapidly expanding its military capabilities across a broad range of areas without sufficient transparency," he said.

China this year increased its defence budget by 7.2 per cent to about USD 245 billion, continuing its long-term military modernisation drive. *PTI*

Chief negotiator says no deal until rights of Iranians secured

TEHRAN

IRAN's chief negotiator warned the United States is not to be trusted on Sunday, saying Tehran would not agree to any deal with Washington unless it fully secures Iranian rights.

According to the *Tasnim news agency*, Iran and the United States are continuing to exchange proposed amendments to a draft memorandum of understanding, with no agreement finalised yet. The agency said any eventual deal could still be rejected.

Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf's remarks came as reports emerged that US President Donald Trump had sent a tougher peace proposal back to Iran, and underlined the rift that the parties still need to close.

Any further tweaks to the draft could further delay an agreement to formally end the West Asia war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz after weeks of fraught negotiations marked by sharp rhetoric and occasional flare-ups of violence.

Iran was already in negotiations with the United States about the fate of its nuclear programme in February, when the US and Israel launched air and missile strikes that wiped out much of the Islamic republic's senior leadership.

Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf | X

And, while Tehran has long insisted that its nuclear programme is for purely civilian ends, the United States and its Western allies have long suspected it aims to develop a weapon.

Nuclear guarantees

The *New York Times* and *Axios* reported on Saturday that Trump had sent back a "tougher" new framework to be considered by Iran, though details remain unclear. Trump has said his priorities include stopping Iran from any nuclear weapon development and re-opening the Hormuz shipping lane, over which Iran has sought to impose control since the war began.

"The one guarantee that I have to have is that there will be no nuclear weapons. They've agreed to that, and it was very interesting," he told his daughter-in-law Lara Trump in an interview on her Fox News show.

But Tehran has previously cast doubt on Trump's assertions and the sides remain far apart on key issues.

"We will not approve any agreement until we are certain that the rights of the Iranian people have been upheld," Ghalibaf said, in a video broadcast on state television.

Iran has sought $12 billion in frozen assets before nuclear talks, calling Trump's uranium stockpile remarks "baseless", Iranian media reported. *AFP*

Australia to go for used US nuclear submarines in major deal revamp

SINGAPORE

AUSTRALIA will only receive used nuclear-powered submarines from the United States as part of an agreement to "streamline" the AUKUS deal, with the move branded on Sunday as a "cost-effective" measure by Defence Minister Richard Marles.

The two nations — together with the third partner in their security pact, Britain — met at Singapore's Shangri-La Dialogue, which brings together top defence officials and experts from about 45 countries.

Under the 2021 AUKUS deal, Australia is expected to receive at least three so-called "Virginia-class" nuclear-powered submarines from the United States within 15 years. Australia had been expecting to receive two used submarines and one new one, but the countries announced Saturday that all three will now be in-service vessels from the US Navy stock.

Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles speaks to the press during the 23rd Shangri-La Dialogue summit in Singapore | AFP

When asked why Canberra was now receiving only used equipment, Marles, who is also deputy prime minister, told reporters on Sunday it would be more cost-effective. "In the context of a very complicated endeavour, we need to place a premium on simplicity," said Marles, who added that the submarines will also be the same model. "I cannot overstate the significance of that, both in terms of the submariners who are operating them, but also the people who are working on them to sustain those submarines," Marles said.

"It is definitely cost-effective. And to be clear, this is a very expensive programme... and so we are trying to find every cost-effective option as we walk down this path." *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Sri Lanka raises fuel prices under IMF plan

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka on Sunday raised fuel prices by up to six per cent as part of International Monetary Fund-backed reforms aimed at recovering energy costs and phasing out subsidies. Petrol prices rose to 434 rupees per litre from 410, while diesel increased to 407 rupees from 392. The hike follows the release of a $695 million IMF loan instalment. Colombo has warned that the ongoing West Asia conflict and higher energy costs could hinder efforts to recover from its 2022 economic crisis and debt default, when the country ran out of foreign exchange reserves.

Colombia heads to polls amid security fears

A Misak Indigenous woman casts her vote at the Guambia Indigenous Reserve, Cauca department, Colombia | AFP

BOGOTA

COLOMBIANS began voting on Sunday in a presidential election that could shift the country's response to rising guerrilla violence, choosing between extending spluttering peace talks or turning to a hard-right military crackdown.

Pre-election polls showed left-wing senator Ivan Cepeda leading, but facing a strong challenge from hard-right lawyer Abelardo de la Espriella, a pro-Trump outsider. The vote is in part a referendum on Colombia's first-ever leftist government and "total peace" — a policy of holding talks with dissident guerrilla groups. Experts say guerrilla groups have used peace talks to strengthen their positions and boost cocaine production, while Colombia has seen car bombings, drone attacks and the assassination of a leading presidential candidate. De la Espriella, the self-styled "Tiger", vows to confront armed groups by air, land and sea, echoing hard-line right-wing security rhetoric in Latin America. "This government really strengthened armed groups by being so soft," said Catalina Devia, a 42-year-old advertising executive and mother of two, who is considering emigrating if Cepeda wins. *AFP*

aavin THE TIRUVANNAMALAI DISTRICT CO.OP.MILK PRODUCERS' UNION LTD
TSD-550, VENGIKKAL, TIRUVANNAMALAI -4.

NEW TENDER NOTICE

Two part tender is invited by Tiruvannamalai Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd., Tiruvannamalai for **16 Milk Collection** Route Vehicles and **6 No's of Taxi** for **2 years** for **2026 – 2028** as detailed below.

01	Starting Date & Time for availability of Tender Form (Through Online)	**01.06.2026 - 10.00 A.M onwards**
02	Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Time	**09.06.2026 - 11.00 A.M**
03	Last Date & Time for availability of Tender Form (Through Online)	**16.06.2026 upto 10.00 A.M**
04	Last Date & Time for receipt of filled in Tender Form (Through Online)	**16.06.2026 upto 10.00 A.M**
05	Place, Date & Time of Opening (Through Online) Part. I Technical Bid	**General Manager - Office, Tiruvannamalai - 4. 16.06.2026 at 03.00 P.M.**
06	The Cost of Tender (Through Online Free), EMD, Tender Conditions and other details can be seen in the tender documents or it can be downloaded through **www.tenders.tn.gov.in**	

Place: Tiruvannamalai - 4.
Date: 29.05.2026 DIPR/1975/TENDER/2026
General Manager
Tiruvannamalai District Co.Op.Milk Producers' Union Ltd

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, IIFL-HFL, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) ("said Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("said Rules") issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower/co-borrower, guarantors, mortgagors to repay the amount, details of which are mentioned in the table below.
And whereas subsequently, IIFL-HFL has vide Assignment Agreement dated 29-Dec-2025 assigned all its rights, title, interest and benefits in respect of the debts due and payable by the borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) arising out of the facilities advanced by IIFL-HFL, Bank to borrower/ guarantor(s) along with the underlying Immovable Property to Phoenix Arc Limited (Formerly known as "Phoenix ARC Private Limited") acting in its capacity as Trustee of Phoenix Trust - FY 26-14 ("Phoenix") for the benefit of the holders of Security Receipts. Therefore, in view of the said assignment, Phoenix now stands substituted in the place of IIFL-HFL and Phoenix shall be entitled to institute/continue all and any proceedings against the borrower/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) and to enforce the rights and benefits under the financial documents including the enforcement of guarantee and security interest executed and created by the borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) for the financial facilities availed by them.
The borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the said amounts, notice is hereby given to the borrower/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Phoenix has taken possession of the underlying Immovable Property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on "AS IS WHERE IS & WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" on the date mentioned below.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)	Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
Mr. Imtiyaz Pasha, Mrs. Shabana Taj, IMB Silk Trade **Prospect No. IL10753693**	All that Piece and Parcel of Mortgaged Property of Property Bearing Northern Portion Of Municipal Khata No. 474/631/2, PID No. 12-2-516-213C & Southern Portion Of Municipal Khata No. 474/631/2, PID No. 12-2-516-213C, Ward No. 12, Block. No. 2, Situated At 5th Main Road, Kottipura Amaniker, Ramnagar Taluk & District, Karnataka - 562159. Area Admeasuring (IN SQ. FT.): Property Type: Land_Area, Carpet_Area. Property Area: 1200.00, 1200.00 Bounded By: North: Vacant Site South: Common Passage And Thereafter Residential Property East: Road West: Residential Property	**Rs.1679754.68** (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Four and Sixty Eight Paise Only)	**10-10-2025**	**27-05-2026**

The borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned that Phoenix is in the lawful possession of the Immovable Property mentioned above and under Section 13(13) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, the borrower/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) or any person whatsoever, shall after receipt of this notice not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate the Immovable Property, without prior written consent of Phoenix and any dealings with the Immovable Property will be subject to the charge of Phoenix for the amount as mentioned above along with future interest at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses, cost, charges etc.
The borrowers'/guarantors'/mortgagors' attention is invited to the provisions of the Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the said Act, in respect of time available to redeem the above-mentioned Immovable Property

PLACE : BANGALORE | DATE : 01.06.2026 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Phoenix ARC Limited (In capacity as Trustee)**

Phoenix ARC Limited (Formerly known as 'Phoenix ARC Private Limited')
CIN No.-U67190MH2007PLC168303 Website: www.phoenixarc.co.in
Registered Office: 3rd Floor, Wallace Towers, 139/140/B/1, Crossing of Sahar Road and Western Express Highway, Vile Parle East, Mumbai, Maharashtra, 400057. • Tel: +91 02268492450.

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on **15-05-2026** by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due and the same was **returned by All.** Hence this.

No.1) M/s. Audio Touch, No.29, Akar Apartments, V S Raju Road, Kumara Park West, Bangalore - 560020. No.2) Mr. L.D.Ravi, S/o. L.C. Doddagowda, No. 29/4 Akar Apartments, V S Raju Road, Kumara Park, Bangalore - 560020. No.3) Mrs. Shyla Rani, W/o. L.D. Ravi, No. 29/4 Akar Apartments, V S Raju Road, Kumara Park, Bangalore - 560020. Also At : Mrs. Shyla Rani, W/o. L.D. Ravi, No.50, I Cross, Gayathri Devi Park Road, Vyalikaval, Bangalore - 560053.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Sub : Loan account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Sultanpet Branch in the name of M/s. Audio Touch.

The Bank issued Notice under the SARFAESI Act on **15-05-2026** calling upon Nos. 1 to 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080078783 is **Rs.19,63,630/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty only)** as on **11-05-2026** with further interest for 501812080078783 at **11.70%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **12-05-2026** till the date of repayment. The Notice **Sent to you by Registered Post have been returned by All.**

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon Nos. 1 to 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080078783 is **Rs.19,63,630/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty only)** with further interest for 501812080078783 at **11.70%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **12-05-2026** till the the date of repayment within **60 days** from the date of this Notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the Schedule hereunder. This Notice is published/issued without prejudice to any other right/remedy available to the Bank.

Note : (1) That Our **054-Bengaluru-Sultanpet Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (CUB OSL TERM EMI-BR : 501812080002157) dated **03-05-2014** requested by No.2 of you for which No.3 of you stood as Co-obligant for the facility for a Total Amount of **Rs. 1,00,00,000/-** at a **ROI** of **11.75%** and the outstanding balance as on **11-05-2026** is **Rs. 30,97,423/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **12-05-2026** till the date of realization.

(2) That Our **054-Bengaluru-Sultanpet Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (CUB OSL TERM EMI-BR : 501812080007733) dated **28-01-2015** requested by No.2 of you for which No.3 of you stood as Co-obligant for the facility for a Total Amount of **Rs. 30,00,000/-** at a **ROI** of **11.75%** and the outstanding balance as on **11-05-2026** is **Rs.10,51,962/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **12-05-2026** till the date of realization.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to Our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. L.D.Ravi, S/o. L.C. Doddagowda)

The Site and the Superstructure now existing and to be put up thereon in future in situated at Site No.151, having Khatha / PID No.4-170-151, Ward No.4, Ramakrishna Gardens, Prathamesh Apartments, RMV 2nd stage, New BEL Road, Mathikere. Measuring : East to West - 60 feet and North to South - 40 feet in All 2,400 sq.ft. Area and bounded as follows : East by : Road, West by : Site No.28, North by : Site No.152, South by : Site No.150.

Schedule - B : (Property Owned by Mrs. Shyla Rani, W/o. L.D. Ravi)

All that piece and parcel of the Site bearing Municipal Khata and Assessment No.1014, 712 : 688/590 : 495 Situated in Rice Mill of Rahamania, Bus Stand Road, III Division, Pandavapura. Measuring : East to West - 60 feet and North to South - 36 feet and Bounded on : East by : Private Property, West by : The remaining Part of the Site, North by : Kokila Talkies and South by : 15 ft. Road.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 01-06-2026 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur Dt., Tamil Nadu - 612001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Ph. No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public are hereby informed/ cautioned that, my clients **REVATHI RAJKUMAR** and **R.VISHNU GANESH** Both are Residing at.No.49, 'Sri Ganesh, 12th Main Road, Srinagar, Bangalore-50 have negotiated with Sri. SURENDRA KUMAR MARDA and Sri. PIYUSH MARDA, S/o.Surendra Kumar Marda both residents of SNN Raj Lakeview Phase-2,Ranka colony road, BTM 2nd Stage, Baneerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560076 to purchase the Property described in the schedule hereunder who are the absolute owners having right over the said property and if any person/s having objection to the said transaction he / she can register their claim/s with documentary proof relied upon with the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice, in person to the address stated herein below above by calling upon the mobile number:9894065065 or to the mobile number stated hereunder and placing their claims supported by documents after the said period my clients would proceed to complete the sale transaction treating that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to schedule property from any person and any claims received thereafter will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of Residential Plot of land being Site no.113 of "Vishwapriya Greeneries", BBMP Khatha no.1502/113, E-PID no. 1174607073 situated Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, carved out of portions of Survey no.117/6 which presently falls within the administrative jurisdiction of Bangalore South City Corporation, Begur Ward, earlier BBMP limits, that was originally coming under old Begur Panchayath, Begur Hobli in Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East-West: 100 (One Hundred) feet and North-South: 60 (Sixty) feet totally measuring : 6,000 (Six Thousand) Square Feet and bounded on:
East by : 30 feet wide road,
West by : Site No.128,
North by : Site No.112,
South by : Site No.114

S.J. Kumar, Advocate,
No.6/6, 1st Floor, Kumara park West,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore -560020
Mob : 9448234541

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA).
A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Description of Secured Asset to be enforced	Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Alok Borar/ Nitu Borar/ No.1302, Tower 10 13th Floor, Salarpuria Sattva Divinity, Mysore Road, Nayandahalli Metro Station, Bangalore-560039/ TBBNG00006845966	Property 1: Schedule 'A' Property All That Piece And Parcel of The Larger Property Measuring In All About 8 Acres 28.04 Guntas Which Is Equivalent To About 35,233.17 Square Metre or 3,79,249.83 Square Feet (After Relinquishment of Areas For Road Widening, Driveway, Parks And Open Spaces And Reserving Area For Civic Amenities As Per Plans Approved By The Bda And Bbmp) And Bearing Bbmp Khatha No.24/20/20/219, Mysore Main Road, R.R. Nagar Ward No. 160, Bengaluru Carved Out of Converted Undeveloped Lands Bearing Survey No. 126, Survey No. 119/1, Survey No.119/2D, Survey No. 119/3D, Survey No.119/4B, Survey No. 119/5B, Survey No.119/6B, Survey No. 120/1, Survey No. 120/2, Survey No. 120/3B, Survey No.120/4B, Survey No. 120/5B, Survey No. 120/6B, Survey No. 123/1, Survey No. 123/2, Survey No.123/3 And Survey No.125/5, All Situated At Pantharapalya Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk Which Is Located Within The Boundaries of The Larger Property Measuring In All About 10 Acres 34.24% Guntas or 43,932.27 Square Meter or 4,72,887 Square Feet Which Is Bounded As Follows:- East By : Remaining Portion of Sy. No. 120, Sy.no. 122 Vrushabhavathi River; West By: Road, North By: Private Property, Remaining Portion of Sy.no. 125/5 And Sy.no.124, South By: Private Property. Schedule 'B' Property (Description of The Undivided Share Conveyed Under This Sale Deed) An Undivided 0.1406% Share (Zero Point One Four Zero Six Percent) (ie., Equivalent To 445.5105 Square Feet) From And Out of 3,16,974.701 Square Feet of The Land Comprised In The Schedule "A" Property Corresponding To The Schedule "C" Private Residence Taking Into Consideration The Far Achieved On The Larger Property And After Reserving The Undivided 62,275.13 Square Feet In The Schedule 'A' Property Towards The Commercial Development As Declared Under The Deed of Declaration. Schedule 'C' Property A Three Bedroom Private Residence Bearing No.1803, Bbmp Khatha No.1389/24/20/20/219/t07/18f/1803 On The Eighteenth Floor of Tower-"07" In The Project Known As "Divinity, A Project Jointly Promoted By Salarpuria And Sattva Group" Constructed On The Schedule "A" Property, Having A Carpet Area of 1250.49 Square Feet And Super Built Up Area of 1749 Square Feet With Proportionate Share In The Common Areas And The Common Amenities And Facilities, Along With Two Covered Purchaser Car Park/s In The Project (Car Parking No.292 & 348) (The Said Private Residence Has RCC Roofing, Vitrified Tiles Flooring, Wood Frame And Flush Doors And Upvc Windows) Property 2: Schedule Property Description of The Private Residence Constructed By The Purchaser's Through The Developer Under The Construction Agreement A Three Bedroom Private Residence Bearing No.1804, Bbmp Khatha No.1390/24/20/20/219/T07/18F/1804 On The Eighteenth Floor of Tower-"07" In The Project Known As "Divinity, A Project Jointly Promoted By Salarpuria And Sattva Group" Constructed On The Schedule "A" Property, Having A Carpet Area of 1245.54 Square Feet And Super Built Up Area of 1826 Square Feet With Proportionate Share In The Common Areas And The Common Amenities And Facilities, Along With Two Covered Purchaser Car Park/s In The Project (Car Parking No.290 & 291) (The Said Private Residence Has RCC Roofing, Vitrified Tiles Flooring, Wood Frame And Flush Doors And Upvc Windows)	28.04.2026 Rs. 2,71,88,395.00/-	05-03-2026

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: June 01, 2026
Place: Bangalore

Sincerely Authorised Officer
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

4.2% decline domestic air traffic witnessed in April to little over 1.38 crore compared to March amid multiple headwinds, including softer travel demand, as per DGCA

Monsoon-reliant cos' stocks to feel the heat

Lower-than-expected rainfall prediction to keep fertiliser, seed and tractor stocks under pressure, say analysts

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

SHARES of fertiliser, seed and tractor are likely to remain under pressure following the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) latest forecast, which lowered the 2026 monsoon rainfall expectation to 90% of LPA (long period average) from 92% forecasted in April. Reacting to the development, shares of monsoon-dependent companies fell sharply on Friday as low rainfall may lead to weaker demand across multiple sectors.

In the fertiliser pocket, Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT) fell more than 5% on Friday while Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF) cracked more than 3%. Chambal Fertilisers and Chemicals and National Fertilizers (NFL) also fell about 3% each. Tractor and farm-equipment manufacturers also came under pressure with Escorts Kubota, Eicher Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra falling between 2-3% on Friday.

"Lower rainfall during the kharif season is likely to keep total area sown lower. Yield too is likely to get impacted, especially for water intensive crops like rice and sugarcane. Though expanded irrigation network will partly mitigate this issue, lower monsoon years are usually associated with lower output, which impacts rural incomes. This dampens rural consumption impacting sectors like fertilisers, agrochemicals, FMCG and auto," said Sunny Agrawal, head - fundamental research at SBI Securities.

Low monsoon forecast was one of the primary reasons why India's equity market closed significantly lower on

Friday with BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty50 falling up to 1.5%. The development comes on the backdrop of the West Asia crisis, soaring oil prices and relentless FII selling which are troubling the local market.

"A weaker-than-expected monsoon forecast (at 90% of LPA) negatively affects the stock market by hurting rural incomes, farm output, and consumption. Since nearly 50-55% of India's farmland is rain-fed, lower rainfall reduces kharif sowing and yields, leading to weaker demand for agri inputs and rural goods. This creates short-term selling pressure on monsoon-dependent sectors, increases food inflation risks, and weighs on overall GDP growth expectations," said Santosh Meena, research head at Swastika Investmart.

Meena added that companies most at risk include fertiliser firms (FACT, NFL, Chambal Fertilisers), seed companies (Kaveri Seed), tractor makers (Eicher Motors, Escorts), and agrochemical players, along with rural-heavy two-wheeler and FMCG names. Shares of Hero MotoCorp and Bajaj Auto fell over 3% each on Friday.

"These face potential volume declines from lower farmer spending and sowing. Investors should adopt caution in the near term: reduce exposure to high rural/agri-cyclical stocks, diversify into defensive sectors, and monitor actual rainfall patterns in June. Avoid panic selling; use dips selectively for quality companies with strong balance sheets. Stay updated on IMD forecasts and government relief measures, and maintain disciplined position sizing," said Meena.

Adding to the monsoon worries, the IMD highlighted that El Nino conditions are likely to be weak in June but remain moderate to strong in September. Currently, neutral El Nino-Southern Oscillation conditions are transitioning towards El Nino conditions over equatorial Pacific region.

IN CONVERSATION

SALIL GUPTE
President-India and South Asia, Boeing

'India accounts for over 70% of manufacturing sourcing for Boeing'

AMID ongoing negotiations for the proposed India-US bilateral trade agreement (BTA), aerospace major Boeing sees India emerging as one of the key manufacturing and sourcing hubs for the global aviation industry. **Salil Gupte**, President of Boeing India and South Asia, in an interaction with TNIE's **Pushpita Dey** tells aerospace and defence industrialisation have emerges as the "big priority" under the joint vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump, with India already contributing majority of the chunk in sourcing for Boeing and other American aerospace firms. **Edited excerpts**:

With ongoing India-US BTA talks, can we expect India to emerge as one of the major manufacturing hubs for Boeing in future? what could be the plans for that?
Under the joint statement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump last year, which is the defining document of the US-India relationship's priorities in the second Trump administration, aerospace and defence in terms of the industrialisation of aerospace in India, is already a big priority for these two governments.

So taking the lead from the White House, we have already worked to increase the industrialisation of Indian aerospace.

We have already been sourcing more than ₹12,000 crore worth of parts for the company from India, of which I believe more than two-thirds, probably more than 70% now, is manufacturing sourcing.

So India is already a very huge source of manufacturing supply for our industry, not just for Boeing, but also for various other US companies, whether it's Raytheon and Collins Aerospace, whether it's Honeywell, or even for some of our peer companies like Lockheed. This is already a big source of supply.

We have already been sourcing over ₹12,000 crore worth of parts from India, of which I believe more than two-thirds, probably more than 70% now, is manufacturing sourcing. So, India is already a very huge source of manufacturing supply for the aviation industry

How has the supply chain disruption due to the West Asia crisis impacted Boeing India? Will it be passed on to the customers too?
Certainly there have been some disruptions that we've had to adapt to in terms of logistics as a result of the conflict in West Asia. But that's true for every industry across the globe.

Largely, we are focused on the impact on our customers, because naturally, with higher energy prices that affect the cost of jet fuels, which is the largest cost of doing business for our airline customers around the world, and here in India, and they've had to adjust some of theircapacity in recent days, in recent weeks, to react to this situation.

And the sooner that you get to a stage where energy prices are ultimately restored to their prior levels, then you will have this capacity restored that enables the connectivity that our airline customers want to provide to their customers, for both the passengers and the cargo customers.

What challenges do you currently face in obtaining certification approvals in India, and what policy changes or regulatory easing do you expect from the government going forward, especially if US BTA gets implemented?
Well, I think with regards to policy, the minister (Piyush Goyal) was very clear that he is focused on safety and quality across all the industries.

And that means they want the very best in testing capabilities and the very best in certification capabilities too.

For our industry, that is very important as well because safety and quality are so critical for us.

So, any sort of schemes or measures, anything that makes those investments easier, whether it's PLI schemes, if they are directed towards those capabilities that help certification or testing in India, I think will be very helpful to aerospace. We are only one industry where that's going to be helpful.

MONEY-WISE

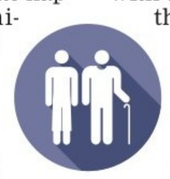
RETIREMENT AND THE CHINESE CURSE

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India.
He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com
(Views expressed here are personal)

SOME years ago, I remember receiving the bio-data of a 65-year-old gentleman in response to a part-time job vacancy my company had advertised for. His bio-data was an impressive one and he had held a fairly responsible position with a MNC at the time of his retirement.

At the time of his retirement, he felt he was well equipped to fend for his wife and himself, having invested a fair amount of his savings in fixed deposits and insurance, which was typical of an Indian investor, back then. He had retired quite happy, having held a prominent post, holidayed round the world with his wife and having facilitated an overseas posting for his son.



Within a couple of years post his retirement, he began feeling the pinch of 'Real' Inflation.

The cost of his purchases were escalating at a far more rapid rate than his return on investments. Interest rate cuts had slashed his Fixed Deposit returns and the periodic inflows from his endowment insurance policies which had seemed quite adequate at the time he signed up, now seemed woefully inadequate.

Having realised that his retirement corpus had been breached, he decided to start working again to meet his expenses, instead of extending a hand out to his son for help to mend the breach.

This is by no means an isolated incident and now, more than ever, with interest rates net of the inflation rate not offering too much leeway and most retirement realizations brought into the tax net, I fear that there must be a huge number of individuals in India who must be going through the same experience.

Post 60 years of age is a tricky time zone that many a salaried and self-employed investor who meets and exceeds the Indian life expectancy will have to tackle. Those who plan for it early are the ones who are less likely to realise the sinister intent of the old Chinese curse of 'May you Outlive your Money'. It is worth noting that over the last six decades, the life expectancy of Indians has risen to around 69 years from 41years, as per World Bank data tabled in 2017.Unless this trend reverses, chances arepresent-day Indians may have an even longer life expectancy.

The insurance industry in India was off the blocks with their pension plans and the mutual fund industry in India too discerned this trend and there is now, no dearth of retirement fund schemes on offer from various Asset Management Companies (AMCs) . Besides these, there is of course the Government backed National Pension Scheme (NPS).

Which one of these one should choose or what is the right mix is a question best left to experts. Whatever one does during one's earning lifetime, do not neglect planning and providing for adequate liquidity and periodic inflows post retirement to dodge the dreaded Chinese curse.

That will ensure, one may have Retired, but one continues to live a relaxed and dignified life.

MONEY MATTERS

HOW DO RICH PEOPLE MANAGE THEIR WEALTH

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

THE rich in India do not reveal much. About 3.2 lakh people proudly disclose incomes above ₹1 crore, according to data from IT returns filed each year. However, if you listen to interviews with top executives at luxury car companies, they would say there are more than 8.3 lakh households with a net worth exceeding ₹9 crore. Their excitement about their booming sales in India is not hidden. Yet, in a country of 150 crore people, that is still a small number.

This influence extends beyond consumption; the financial behaviour of the rich serves as an inspiration for ordinary people. Many look up to their lifestyle and work towards their own dreams and aspirations. The desire to succeed prompts everyone to seek opportunities to increase income.

You can learn a lot from the way the rich manage their wealth: they focus on protecting, rather than rapidly growing, their assets. Many with generational or new wealth make preservation their main priority.

One clear example is the mutual fund industry, which today manages a significant amount. Nearly two-thirds of those assets are in equity, mainly sourced from salaried workers and those with regular incomes. So, a natural way to understand how smart managers handle money is to examine the mutual fund industry's asset allocation. However, this allocation depends on the mutual fund scheme's mandate. Mutual fund managers cannot allocate money meant for equity investing to debt funds unless the fund is a multi-asset or hybrid fund.

Going beyond mutual funds, a good indicator of asset allocation is the money under management of those offering portfolio management services. These are financial intermediaries managing money on behalf of the rich. The minimum ticket size is usually Rs 50 lakh, although Sebi has now allowed smaller contributions. Stockbrokers, mutual funds, banks, and other professional wealth managers have set up separate companies to collectively manage Rs 42.2 lakh crore through portfolio management services, according to data from an industry association of portfolio managers. More than Rs 35 lakh rupees is a discretionary investment where the portfolio manager determines the asset allocation. As of April 2026, nearly 84% of that money is in debt instruments, and about 11% is in equity assets, according to the data.

What does it mean to you?

The personal finance lesson from the wealthy is clear: the market is far bigger than any individual, and a professional can protect your wealth and allocate capital more efficiently than individuals can. The priority is towards preserving your wealth rather than going on a wild-goose chase for higher returns. There is a structured approach to risk management and risk-taking when investing a small portion of the pie. Risk capital is allocated to structured derivatives, unlisted equity and debt, and co-investments with other private equity investors in early-stage startups or high-growth unlisted companies.

So, the path forward is to accumulate capital through systematic investment plans in your work years. Equity assets multiply over the long term. If you need money in the short term, fixed-income assets should be appropriately allocated. But if you wish to focus on your retirement goals, you must work towards a critical mass of accumulated wealth. That is assuming you are starting young with little or no savings. After it achieves a critical mass, you can hire the services of a PMS expert.

If you inherit a sizeable amount of cash or shares or own stock options in a company that has gone public or proposes to list, planning your wealth carefully becomes even more important. While you work hard to earn, your money should also work harder for you. You now have better options with professional portfolio managers than ever before.

Happiest Minds plans to add 750-1,000 employees in FY27

PADMINI DHRUVARAJ @ Bengaluru

DIGITAL engineering services firm Happiest Minds Technologies plans to add between 750 and 1,000 employees in FY27 and targets 12.5% revenue growth, with the company betting on a growing pipeline, large deal wins and expansion in newer business areas.

"As per our plans, we should be adding 750 to 1000 people next year," Managing Director Venkatraman Narayanan said during post-earnings interaction with TNIE.

The company ended FY26 with about 6,500 employees and expects its average headcount to reach 7,250-7,500 during FY27, taking into account attrition and business demand.

To focus on GCCs

Happiest Minds said it is strengthening its focus on the global capability centre (GCC) opportunity and has appointed a dedicated leader for the segment as it looks to expand its engagement with multinational companie

The hiring plans come as Happiest Minds forecast 12.5% revenue growth for FY27 and aims to improve operating margins by around 100 basis points from the current level of about 17.5%.

CEO Joseph Anantharaju said the growth outlook was based on account-level planning and supported by a stronger deal pipeline. As per the company, its pipeline grew 27% during FY26, aided by several large multi-year deals. The company also added around 50 customers during the year and said recently acquired businesses had been integrated.

For FY26, Happiest Minds reported revenue of ₹2,315 crore, up 12.3% year-on-year. Adjusted profit after tax rose 9.4% to ₹278.6 crore.

Coffee Day turns profitable, posts ₹210 crore profit

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

COFFEE Day Enterprises (CDEL), parent of the Café Coffee Day chain, reported a turnaround in the March quarter and for the full financial year 2025-26, aided by improved operational performance and lower losses across businesses.

For Q4FY26, it posted a net profit of ₹132.07 crore, compared with a net loss of ₹114.16 crore in the corresponding quarter a year ago. Total income from operations rose to ₹293.48 crore from ₹279.23 crore a year earlier. For FY26, CDEL reported a net profit of ₹210.14 crore against a net loss of ₹143.20 crore in FY25. Annual revenue from operations rose to ₹1,154.40 crore from ₹1,125.64 crore in the previous year.

Adani says US legal issues 'behind us', bets on airports, green hydrogen, AI

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Adani Group has indicated that it considers the turbulence arising from its legal proceedings in the US to be largely over, with Chairman Gautam Adani declaring in his latest letter to stakeholders that "the matters related to our US legal proceedings are now behind us."

The statement, made in the annual report of Adani Enterprises, marks one of the clearest public signals yet from the conglomerate that it believes the prolonged period of scrutiny and uncertainty surrounding overseas probes is no longer a major obstacle to its business expansion plans.

The remarks come as the group seeks to shift investor attention back to its aggressive growth strategy across airports,

green hydrogen, defence manufacturing, data centres and transport infra. "This year tested us in ways few could have imagined," Gautam Adani wrote, while asserting that the group had demonstrated resilience amid "extraordinary scrutiny."

The report emphasised the group's intention to focus on long-term infra and energy-transition projects. Among the flagship projects highlighted was the upcoming Navi Mumbai International Airport, which it described as a transformative infra asset and a major future value driver.

It underscored its ambitions in clean energy, stating that it had commissioned India's first off-grid 5 MW green hydrogen pilot plant as part of its broader push into green hydrogen and renewable manufacturing. In the digital infra segment, AdaniConneX announced a partnership with Google to develop what it described as India's largest AI-focused data centre campus in Visakhapatnam, , signalling the group's growing ambitions in AI and cloud infrastructure. The company further highlighted expansion plans in defence and aerospace manufacturing through partnerships with Embraer and Leonardo.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

SPORT 11
BENGALURU
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newindianexpress●com

> *I said to a few of the boys that it doesn't feel like the same pressure as last year. We knew what kind of ability we have in the group. We topped the table. There's a reason why we got here first.*
>
> — Virat Kohli, RCB batter

ROYAL CORONATION BENGALURU 2.0

RCB players rejoice their title triumph in the IPL final on Sunday | BCCI

Bowlers restrict GT to 155/8 before Virat's unbeaten 75 as RCB bag 2nd successive title

GOMESH S @ Ahmedabad

Virat Kohli lifted his arms aloft the moment he swatted Arshad Khan into the stands, sending the 900014 to a frenzy at the Narendra Modi Stadium. In seconds, he was engulfed by his teammates at the batting crease. Kohli, who broke away from the crowd to raise his bat and helmet to acknowledge the packed stadium that was chanting his name, had taken Royal Challengers Bengaluru to their second IPL title, beating Gujarat Titans.

Not long before in the innings, when Rashid Khan cleaned up Krunal Pandya, reducing RCB to 91/4 with a double-wicket over, GT had a glimmer of hope. But 156 was the kind of chase Kohli eats for breakfast. Or could do it in his sleep. However one wanted to put it, Gill and the lakh people at the stadium knew that this total and chase was right up his alley from the halfway mark.

Batting on 40 from 18 balls, till that point Kohli had just eight non-boundary runs. This

RCB bowlers celebrate a wicket against GT in the IPL final on Sunday | BCCI

was not the Kohli of the past and neither was RCB. The former captain, who played anchor for the first 15 years of his IPL career, has chosen to be aggressive and it paid off. But with 65 runs needed from 66 balls, Kohli switched back to his old self. He knew as long as he stays in the middle, RCB are winning the title. And it was his chance to be there for the team and take it across the line in a big final for once. Over the next three overs, with Tim David by his side, Kohli ran hard — eight off his next 16 runs came by running between wickets. In the process, he also notched up his quickest IPL fifty (25 balls) in 19 years.

Once within reach, he tried to go over and was caught by Gill at mid-off only to be declared not out with the ball touching the grass. The writing was on the wall. After 18 years of trying to do this for RCB, this was Kohli's moment of glory as he finished off in style.

However, Kohli did not do it alone. He took RCB home, but the title defence and triumph was possible because of the much-reverred bowling attack. From the moment Rajat Patidar won the toss and opted to bowl, the contest was down to one thing — whether or not Josh Hazlewood and Bhuvneshwar Kumar could run through the top-heavy Titans. The latter, with 17 powerplay wickets, had led the way for RCB through the league stages. The Australian, who joined the party late, did not want to miss out on the big day.

Coming in during the third over, Hazlewood pulled the length back a little and got extra bounce to challenge Gill and B Sai Sudharsan on a two-paced pitch. And it worked. The first victim was Gill, who topedged a back-of-length delivery, trying to go across the line. Soon, Kumar followed suit. Sai Sudharsan was caught in the crease to a bouncer and took the long walk back. That was perhaps the game, set, match and championship.

However, RCB were here for the kill. Rasikh Salam made a length ball climb to remove Nishant Sindhu. Krunal Pandya outsmarted Jos Buttler. When it felt like GT would not even get to 150, Washington came up with an unbeaten 50 off 37 balls to take them to a respectable total. That, however, was never going to be enough against Kohli who made the night his own. RCB are now two-time IPL champions. **Brief scores:** GT 155/8 in 20 ovs (Washington 50 n.o; Rasikh 3/27) **lost to** RCB 161/5 in 18 ovs (Kohli 75 n.o, Venkatesh 32; Rashid 2/25).

TALKING POINTS

PACERS BANG ON TARGET

Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Josh Hazlewood and Rasikh Salam shared seven wickets between them to disrupt Gujarat Titans batters. Openers Shubman Gill and B Sai Sudharsan, who have been the mainstays of GT batting, were back in the pavilion within the 4th over.

WASHINGTON'S FIGHTING 50

GT were in unfamiliar territory once both the openers were dismissed early. Jos Buttler was also dismissed soon. It was all-rounder Washington Sundar who hit a 50 off 37 to help GT post 155/8.

A KNOCK OF IMMENSE 'KOHLI'TY

In contrast, RCB made a flying start with both Virat Kohli and Venkatesh Iyer striking at a high rate. Despite watching wickets fall at the other end, Kohli ensured he guided his side to the theirsecond straight title.

ORANGE CAP
VAIBHAV SOORYAVANSHI (RR)
776 runs

PURPLE CAP
KAGISO RABADA (GT)
29 wkts

How Vaibhav became story of 2026 season

GOMESH S @ Ahmedabad

A little after Rahul Tewatia hit the winning runs for Gujarat Titans during Qualifier 2, Rajasthan Royals' Vaibhav Sooryavanshi sank into his seat at the dugout. Using the orange cap — he eventually emerged the leading run-scorer with 776 runs at 48.50 average and 237.30 strike rate — to hide his face, the 15-year-old was in tears. His teammates, one after another, and the captain, Riyan Parag, came in and gave a hug. The teenager had perhaps played his career-best knock – 47-ball 96 — to give RR a chance to fight against GT, but it wasn't enough.

Gutted, the teenager could be seen taking solace in everyone who came to have a word with him and applaud him. And it was not just his teammates. Opponents, like Jos Buttler, broadcasters, former players, and team owners, all came to appreciate him. For someone who was not even eligible to get a learner's license in India, the 15-year-old had the world's attention. His success has been the story of the season, not just for RR, but for world cricket.

Broadcasters and media from all over the world have their cameras and eyes on his every single move. In only his second year at the IPL, Sooryavanshi has become the crowd favourite, capturing the imagination of the cricket-frenzy nation. Not since Sachin Tendulkar has anyone achieved this early in their career.

And it showed outside the venues. After MS Dhoni, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, his jerseys became an instant hit among the fans.

The No 3 pink jersey was there to see everywhere Sooryavanshi and RR went. The attention of broadcasters, too, has moved from the veteran stars to the next-gen prodigy.

How did a 15-year-old from Tajpur, a small village 12km from Bihar's Samastipur district, become the face of the league? With his sheer cricketing genius, taking down the best in the world. The cumulative numbers, as ridiculous as they are, do not tell the significance and impact of him against the best in the world.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

French Open: Swiatek ousted by Kostyuk

AGENCIES @ Paris

FOUR-TIME former champion Iga Swiatek was eliminated from the French Open fourth round on Sunday by Marta Kostyuk. The Polish third seed went down 7-5, 6-1 to the 15th seed from Ukraine. Kostyuk, the Madrid Open winner, moved into the quarter-finals at Roland Garros for the first time in her career. "I'm still in shock to beat such an unbelievable player who won four times here and I lost four times to her before this, I never took a set off her," 23-year-old Kostyuk said. With her fourth-round exit, it was the joint worst performance at Roland Garros for the 25-year-old, equal with the last-16 departure she suffered on her debut in Paris seven years ago.

The first set went on serve until the seventh game when Swiatek pounced on Kostyuk's service to move in front. From there, the Pole's own delivery deserted her as the world number 15 hit back to level before the pair again exchanged another pair of breaks. Later, a stunning rally concluded with a reflex volley at the net that Swiatek could not equal.

Zverev enters quarterfinals

German second seed Alexander Zverev kept alive his hopes of claiming a first Grand Slam title as he beat Dutch lucky loser Jesper de Jong in straight sets. The three-time runner-up in major finals advanced with a 7-6 (3), 6-4, 6-1 win.

Wrestlers Aman, Sujeet, Deepak qualify for Asiad

ENS @ Chennai

AS expected, all the top men freestyle wrestlers made it to the India squad for the 2026 Asian Games, winning trials in their respective weight categories on Sunday. The trials were held at SAI centre in Lucknow and newly-appointed men's freestyle coach Shako Bentinidis also reached the venue to oversee the competition.

Aman Sehrawat, the 2024 Paris Olympics bronze medallist, defeated Rahul (11-1) by technical superiority in the 57kg weight category final. Similarly, world No 1 Sujeet Kalkal defeated Vishal Kaliraman 2-0 in a close final. The story of the day, however, was the return of Deepak Punia, who not only changed his weight category to 97kg but also defeated Jonty Kumar 8-0 in the final to book a place for Asiad. Punia used to compete in the 86kg and represented the country at the Tokyo Olympics in the same division. Apart from these freestyle wrestlers, Sunil Kumar, 2022 Asian Games bronze medallist, also made it to the team in the 86kg category.

INDIA SQUAD: Freestyle: Aman Sehrawat (57kg), Sujeet Kalkal (65kg), Sagar Jaglan (74kg), Mukul (86kg), Deepak Punia (97kg), Rajat Rahul (125kg).

Greco-Roman: Sumit (60kg), Deepak (67kg), Aman (77kg), Sunil (87kg), Nitesh Kumar (97kg), Deepanshu (130kg).

Gukesh fights to defeat Pragg

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Oslo

WHEN the Norway Chess crew had given R Praggnanandhaa and D Gukesh specific attire ahead of their boat race at the tournament's games on Friday, a rest day, both of them were laughing. They decided to change together, next to a closed stall by the bay overlooking the Oslo fjords. The camaraderie had of course began earlier in the day when the duo walked from their hotel to the bay. Two of India's elite and most studied chess players of all time showing that they are friends off the board.

But hostilities were renewed when the fifth round of the tournament began on Saturday evening. It represented an important game between two of the country's top three.

R Praggnanandhaa and D Gukesh in action | MICHAL WALUSZA/NORWAY CHESS

In the end, it was Gukesh, who picked up his first Classical win of the Games. Even as Pragg, who had enjoyed a win over Magnus Carlsen in the third round, walked away from the playing hall, the world champion was all smiles. And it was interesting to hear his immediate reactions post the win. "I'm doing much, much better than I was doing even a couple of months earlier," the 20-year-old said in a broadcast interview. "I feel much sharper and much happier in general. The results are still improving, but not where I want to be.

"When you feel good about yourself, you also feel sharper on the board. And you trust yourself more with quick decisions. These are very minor things but at the end of the day that's what makes the difference."

Gukesh, who genuinely seemed to enjoy Friday's rest day (he was celebrating his birthday), had begun Saturday's matches in last place. So this win will do him a world of good, especially as it quietens the permanent noise around him.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Indian Open: Double delight for surfer Kamali

MANGALURU: Tamil Nadu's talented teenager Kamali Moorthy, who secured India's surfing quota for the upcoming Asian Games, completed a remarkable double by winning both the Women's Open and Surfing Juniors U-18 Girls titles at the finals of the seventh NMPA Indian Open of Surfing on Sunday.

Gaikwad replaces RR's Parag in India A squad

CHENNAI: Chennai Super Kings skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad has replaced injured Riyan Parag in the India A squad for the upcoming tri-Nation series in Sri Lanka, the BCCI said on Sunday. Parag, the Rajasthan Royals skipper, had played the IPL with a hamstring injury and is expected to be out for nearly three months.

SINGAPORE OPEN

After two years of hurt and pain, a red-letter Sunday for SatChi

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

IT is an apt case of light at the end of the tunnel.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty had been at sea for over two years. If the 2024 Paris Olympics setback was a new low at the time, Satwik had suffered a heartbreaking loss of his father, somebody who had been instrumental in his career, just six months later. It was life-altering to say the least. The injuries also continued to disrupt his game.

If 2025 was a trophyless season, the current season, though still early days, was proving to be a bigger obstacle with the duo struggling to find any sort of rhythm in the game. But despite all the jarring experiences, they never lost belief in their abilities.

Things had been brighter since the Thomas Cup (where the Indian men's team won bronze) and they had come close to ending their title drought during the Thailand Open recently. It was a matter of time, as they kept telling themselves. On Sunday, that finally arrived at the Singapore Indoor Stadium.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty pose with their medals | BADMINTON PHOTO

And the duo did it the hard way. The duo beat Muhammad Fikri and Fajar Alfian of Indonesia 18-21, 21-17, 21-16 across 73 fairly pulsating minutes.

Having conceded the opening game, the Indians displayed their survival instincts before going on to capture the Singapore Open — a BWF Super 750 tournament. Soon after the match-sealing point, they expressed their delight with a dance in front of the fans.

It was a poignant moment, highlighting what this meant for them. This was their first title since the Thailand Open crown in May, 2024. It was also the first time an Indian pair had captured a doubles crown at Singapore.

Speaking to reporters after the final, Satwik later dedicated his victory to his niece and family. "After the Olympics (Paris), we had been chasing that one win and we thought we're on the right track. Personal things happened and suddenly one thing was that my brother was blessed with a baby last week. That was my celebration for her. We felt our father was reborn. I'm really happy with how things have gone this week. I was thinking I should dedicate this to my family, who has been supporting me all along. My mom is in the US. Really happy how this week went," he said.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Amul

Happy World Milk Day

This World Milk Day, Amul celebrates the goodness of milk, the world's original energy drink, together with our 36 lakh women dairy farmers.

The first superfood.
The first source of energy.
The first sip of life.
The first powerhouse of protein.
The first choice for healthy bones.
The first essential for stronger muscles.
The first taste you fell in love with.
The first moustache you ever sported.
The first glass of the day.

Today, Amul is ranked as the world's No. 1 cooperative organisation and the world's strongest food & dairy brand, with a sales turnover of ₹1 lakh crore.

For 80 years, the unwavering dedication of our women dairy cooperative members has powered India to become the world's largest milk producer.

In the International Year of the Woman Farmer, Amul celebrates each one of them for nourishing generations and for their commitment to fuelling generations ahead this World Milk Day.

WORLD MILK DAY

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WOMAN FARMER 2026

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MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

World Milk Day

World Milk Day is celebrated to bring the importance of milk as a global food and to promote dairy farming and the dairy industry

ITS ESTABLISHMENT

It was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and has been observed across the world since its inception in 2001

A DAY FOR PUBLICISING

The Day provides an opportunity to focus attention on milk and to publicise activities connected with milk and the milk industry

THEME

This year's World Milk Day theme is 'Celebrating Women Farmers', while honoring the UN Year Of The Woman Farmer

Playin' It Big
PG 3

RED ALERT!

From the electric atmosphere in Ahmedabad, where RCB took on GT, fans from Bengaluru who marched to the Narendra Modi Stadium for the IPL finals, capture and share moments from the unfolding spectacle

A packed stadium awaits the toss at the IPL finals

TEAM CE

AS fans travelled across cities to watch RCB clash with GT at the IPL finals, the Narendra Modi Stadium at Ahmedabad heard roars of fans as they donned team colours, waved flags and lost their voices cheering. Through photographs by attendees, capturing every emotion, *CE* shares a peek into the stadium before the toss.

Luxury travel & lifestyle blogger Nivedith Gajapathy roots for RCB

RCB fans hold up signs supporting their team

Pics: @nammateamrcb.official, Mayur M Bharadwaj, Nikhil Naik

Ding-dong, holidays gone!

Today, as students return for a new academic year, here's a glimpse of back-to-school anticipation and apprehensions

NITYA DANI & CHANDANA NAGARAJU

BAGS are packed for a new academic year with a mix of emotions – early mornings, meeting friends, academic anxieties and extracurricular activities. With the summer break having come to a close on Sunday, students are ready for this Monday morning with renewed energy.

While typically vacations mean summer camps, holiday travel, or simply lazing around and enjoying ice cream to beat the heat, students like Abhimanyu Saha, who is entering Class 12, spent it preparing for competitive exams. "It was both a solid grind and break. Honestly, a lot of my time went into dialing in my prep for upcoming competitive exams like IPMAT and CUET, so it wasn't completely relaxed." Younger students like Aayush Bharath, had a more relaxed summer break that was spent playing outdoors and attending hobby classes. Ready for Class 3, Aayush is beyond excited to meet his friends and resume his robotics classes. "I'm waiting to go back to school to show my friends the chess and badminton I picked up during the holidays," says the eight-year-old.

For twins Vivaan and Vibha D Chhatbar, both entering Class 8, the start of a new school year brings excitement for very different reasons. While Vibha is eager to return to her dance classes, Vivaan is looking forward to diving into the new mathematics curriculum. "I love solving math problems," he says. "They make my brain work faster, and I even sleep better after working on them." While both spent much of their summer break travelling with their families, they appreciated the respite from the demanding routine of school and tuition classes.

Other students, like Suvandhitaa Dhananjaya who enters Class 9, are looking forward to having classes shuffled while also being anxious about making new friends and fitting in. "Right now, I don't really know who is in my class, so it's going to be a tough year. I feel like this will be a new experience for me to open up and make friends," she says optimistically.

(Inputs from Misha Baniya)

Suvandhitaa Dhananjaya

Aayush Bharath

CITY READ

Mythological Odissi performance to take place on June 7

Draupadi's Mahabharata, an Odissi dance presentation by Madhulita Mohapatra and her troupe, Nrityantar, will be staged at Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield, on June 7, with two shows at 3.30pm and 7.30pm. The performance retells the *Mahabharata* through the perspective of Draupadi, exploring her journey from birth to the aftermath of the Kurukshetra war and presenting her as the woman, queen, witness and conscience of the epic. It traces her life while weaving personal anguish with larger cosmic consequences. Her voice binds together questions of destiny, justice, and the moral cost of power and silence through key events like the swayamvara, the dice game, her humiliation in the Kuru court, and the war. Rooted in classical Odissi, the performance blends expressive abhinaya, sculptural choreography and live musical composition. With music by Rupak Kumar Parida and rhythm by Guru Dhaneswar Swain. Tickets are available on bookmyshow.com.

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FOCUS FEATURE

The Legal Reality Of Apartment Land Conveyance In Karnataka

Is Conveyance Of Land/Common Area In Favour Of Apartment Associations Or Rwa's Are Really Required?

ADV BEENA PILLAI, NEXTLEGAL SERVICES

One of the gravest legal issues emerging in residential apartment projects in Karnataka today is the attempt to compel Developers to execute a second conveyance of land and common areas in favour of Co-operative Societies or other collective bodies, even after the land has already been conveyed to apartment purchasers through registered sale deeds in the form of Undivided Share ("UDS"). This practice is not merely legally unsustainable. It strikes at the very foundation of property ownership.

Unlike Maharashtra and certain other States, the scheme of development followed in Karnataka, and in most parts of the country, is substantially different. In Karnataka, the entire project land including common areas of residential apartments are ordinarily conveyed directly to the apartment purchasers themselves in the form of Undivided Share ("UDS"). The UDS is calculated proportionate to the respective built-up area of the apartment units. Therefore, once all apartment units are sold and registered, the entire land substantially stands conveyed to the apartment owners themselves. The consideration collected by the Developer itself reflects two distinct components: consideration towards construction; and consideration towards undivided share in land. Thus, once the registered sale deed is executed: the apartment owner becomes owner of the apartment; the apartment owner simultaneously becomes co-owner of the land and common areas; and the Developer ceases to retain proprietary interest over the project land to the extent conveyed. This is the legal and commercial structure upon which thousands of apartment purchasers in Karnataka have invested their life savings.

The fundamental question therefore is: If the land already stands conveyed to the apartment purchasers through UDS, what exactly remains with the Developer to further convey to an Association or Society?

Property law does not recognise transfer of the same property twice. Once ownership rights over land and common areas have already been conveyed to apartment purchasers, there remains no independent proprietary interest with the Developer capable of further transfer. Any direction compelling the Developer to once again transfer the same land in favour of: a Co-operative Society; a Welfare Society; or another Association, would directly conflict with settled principles of property law.

The issue becomes even more serious where the proposed transferee is a separate juristic entity having an independent legal personality distinct from apartment owners. Because once the conveyance is made in favour of such an entity, the ownership structure itself fundamentally changes.

If any entity created in the form of a Co-operative Society, Society, or Association seeks ownership or conveyance over land already conveyed to apartment owners without their consent, it would amount to unlawful appropriation of property belonging to apartment owners themselves.

Several Co-operative Societies formed in Karnataka contain bye-law provisions expressly contemplating transfer of project land into the name of the Society. The object itself becomes legally questionable when the land already belongs to apartment owners through registered conveyances.

The issue also raises serious constitutional concerns under Article 300A of the Constitution of India, which protects citizens from deprivation of property except by authority of law. Once apartment purchasers acquire undivided share through registered conveyance deeds: such ownership becomes a vested constitutional right; the same cannot be diluted indirectly through administrative or collective structures; and no authority or body can transfer or appropriate such ownership without lawful authority and consent.

The confusion surrounding conveyance largely arises from blindly importing concepts from other States without appreciating Karnataka's distinct ownership structure. The purpose behind statutory conveyance provisions is primarily to ensure that Developers do not indefinitely retain ownership over project land where ownership has not yet been transferred. Such provisions cannot be interpreted mechanically to override ownership already conveyed to apartment purchasers through UDS. Where ownership already stands transferred, the purpose of conveyance itself stands fulfilled.

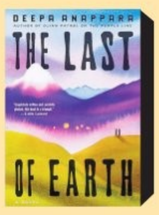
Even though the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka has repeatedly upheld the validity and applicability of the Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972 in several judgments, there continue to be persistent attempts to bypass the statutory framework through parallel structures and alternate governance models.

Apartment owners must understand that the most valuable component of apartment ownership is not merely the building, but the undivided share in land attached to it. Buildings may depreciate over time. Land does not.

Future redevelopment rights, compensation structures, reconstruction benefits, FAR utilisation, and long-term property value fundamentally depend upon ownership and control over land. If apartment owners unknowingly permit concentration of ownership rights into separate entities, they may eventually discover that while possession stands in their name, effective control and ownership over the land has shifted elsewhere.Ultimately, this debate is not merely about apartment administration. It is about preservation of property rights. It is about constitutional protection of ownership. And it is about ensuring that apartment owners in Karnataka do not unknowingly lose control over the very land they have already purchased through registered conveyances.

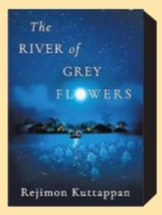
The Author is a Lawyer & Senior Partner NEXT LEGAL SERVICES, Bangalore

BOOK NOOK



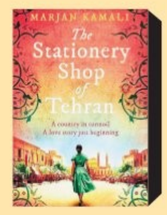
The Last of Earth
by Deepa Anappara

A stunning historical novel set in nineteenth-century Tibet that follows an Indian school teacher spying for the British Empire and an English 'lady' explorer as they venture into a forbidden kingdom.



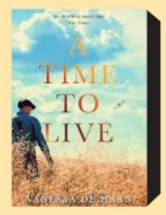
The River of Grey Flowers
By Rejimon Kuttappan

The novel explores themes of internal migration, labour rights and the human cost of modern infrastructure projects through the life of Dalit fisherman John Easow.



The Stationery Shop of Tehran
By Marjan Kamali

This love story blends romance, history and memory as the connection between two young lovers begins in a stationery shop and is shaped by political upheaval.



A Time to Live
By Vanessa de Haan

The novel follows Freddie, who is torn between duty and freedom, and must now sacrifice his own dreams to keep his estate and the future of Coombe alive.

KICK-START

Young football players hone their skills at PSS Academy, Uttarahalli | **SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA**

QUICKFIX

JAPANESE SOUFFLE PANCAKES

INGREDIENTS

Milk: 20 ml
Maida: 3 tbsp
Sugar: 3 tsp
Vanilla essence: ½ tsp

METHOD

- Separate the egg whites and yolks.
- In a bowl, mix the yolks with vanilla essence and milk, then gradually add sifted flour to form a smooth, creamy batter.
- In another bowl, beat the egg whites, adding sugar little by little until stiff peaks form.
- Gently fold half of the egg whites into the yolk mixture, then fold this into the remaining egg whites until well combined.
- Heat a nonstick pan and pour a spoonful of batter. Cover and cook for 5-6 minutes, then flip and cook until done.
- Remove from the pan and repeat with the remaining batter.
- You'll get the most fluffy and amazing pancakes within 10 minutes.

Contributed by **Ann Sherin Mathews,** Kottayam

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Beer Excursion

Venture into a brewery with an expert guide and learn about the brewing process and sample a few beers along with a delicious meal. Take a friend along and experience the wonders of the brewing process and develop a fine palette.

WHEN: June 1, 3pm
WHERE: Rajarajeshwari Nagar Metro Station (Meeting Point)
DETAILS: airbnb.co.in

DJ Magic

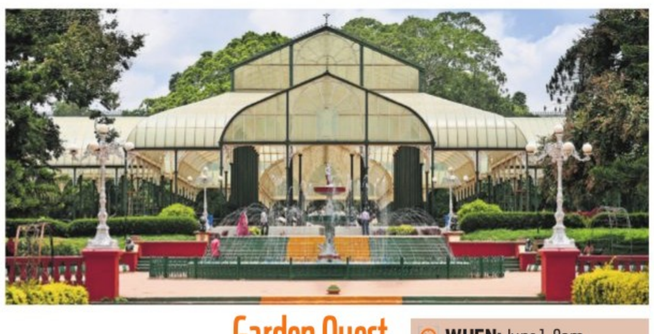
Join DJ Harsh for an energetic music bash where you can dance your heart out to lively beats and an exciting ambience. Enjoy the free entry and party all night with drinks in hand.

WHEN: June 1, 8pm
WHERE: Nolimmits Lounge and Club, Magrath Road
CALL: 90089 79977

Cookie Goodness

Make your own freshly baked chocolate chip cookies in this beginner-friendly session and take home a delicious batch to the delight of your friends and family. Learn the basics of baking, from making the perfect sticky dough to choosing the right chocolate chips and get every step right to ensure deliciously crunchy cookies.

WHEN: June 1, 7.15pm
WHERE: Fabrizo - Creative Art & Craft Lounge, BTM Layout
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com



Garden Quest

Spend a day exploring Lalbagh and its rich, layered history, from its origins under the Mysore rajas to its transformation during the colonial period. Through this tour, understand Lalbagh through its geology, history and its relationship with Bengaluru.

WHEN: June 1, 8am
WHERE: Lalbagh West Gate, RV Road
DETAILS: urbanaut.app

Unlimited Feast

Kick-start your Monday at this all-you-can-eat feast with unlimited food and beer. Take your friends along and indulge in a wide selection of delicious starters and refreshing beers.

WHEN: June 1, 12pm
WHERE: Underdoggs Hebbal, Sahakar Nagar
DETAILS: allevents.in

Resin Crafting

Step into this beginner-friendly resin koi pond making workshop and learn the basics of resin art and pouring techniques. Make a realistic miniature koi pond by layering colours, textures and koi fish details and take home a handmade koi pond to display in your garden.

WHEN: June 1, 3pm
WHERE: Hobby Ghar, Basavanagudi
CALL: 95355 55644

Funny Bones

Enter into the second half of the year as you experience an evening filled with laughter and delicious baked food. This stand-up comedy special features an assortment of witty comedians whose sidesplitting jokes promise to leave you gasping for air.

WHEN: June 1, 8.30pm
WHERE: Glen's Bakehouse, Kalyan Nagar
CALL: 90080 03473

DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Crown Vet, Delhi.

Since Persian cats are prone to eye discharge and breathing problems, what symptoms should I start monitoring in my 1-year-old?

A one-year-old Persian cat requires regular monitoring for signs such as excessive eye discharge, redness, squinting, tear staining, or an unpleasant odour around the eyes, as this breed is predisposed to tear duct blockage and eye infections. In hot, summer weather, observe for noisy or difficult breathing, open-mouth breathing, worsening snoring, lethargy, rapid breathing, or poor heat tolerance due to their flat-faced structure. It is also important to track appetite, water intake and grooming behaviour. Immediate veterinary assistance is advised if the cat develops laboured breathing, nasal discharge, weakness, or signs of heat stress.

ASK AN XPERT

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

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FITBIT

BROWN EGGS VS WHITE EGGS: WHICH IS ACTUALLY BETTER?

Eggs are one of the most nutrient-dense foods available, but one debate refuses to go away: Are brown eggs healthier than white eggs? The short answer is that simple shell colour does not determine nutritional quality. The real difference lies in the hen's breed, diet and farming conditions.

SHELL COLOUR IS ABOUT GENETICS, NOT NUTRITION

- Brown eggs come from breeds with reddish feathers, while white eggs come from white-feathered hens. Nutritionally, both contain similar amounts of protein, healthy fats, vitamins and minerals.

PROTEIN QUALITY REMAINS THE SAME

- Both brown and white eggs provide high-quality complete protein, containing all essential amino acids needed for muscle recovery, immunity, and overall health. Include eggs in breakfast or post-workout meals for sustained energy and muscle support.

WHY BROWN EGGS ARE USUALLY MORE EXPENSIVE

- Brown eggs often cost more because the hens that lay them are larger and require more feed. The higher price reflects production cost and not superior nutrition.

THE HEN'S DIET MATTERS MORE THAN EGG COLOUR

- The nutritional value of eggs depends more on what the hen eats. Eggs from hens fed omega-3-rich diets may contain higher omega-3 levels regardless of shell colour. If possible, choose eggs that have label of free range, omega-3 enriched and pasture-raised.

TASTE DIFFERENCES ARE USUALLY MINIMAL

- Some people believe brown eggs taste richer, but taste is influenced more by freshness and feed quality than shell colour.

EGGS ARE NUTRITIONAL POWERHOUSES EITHER WAY

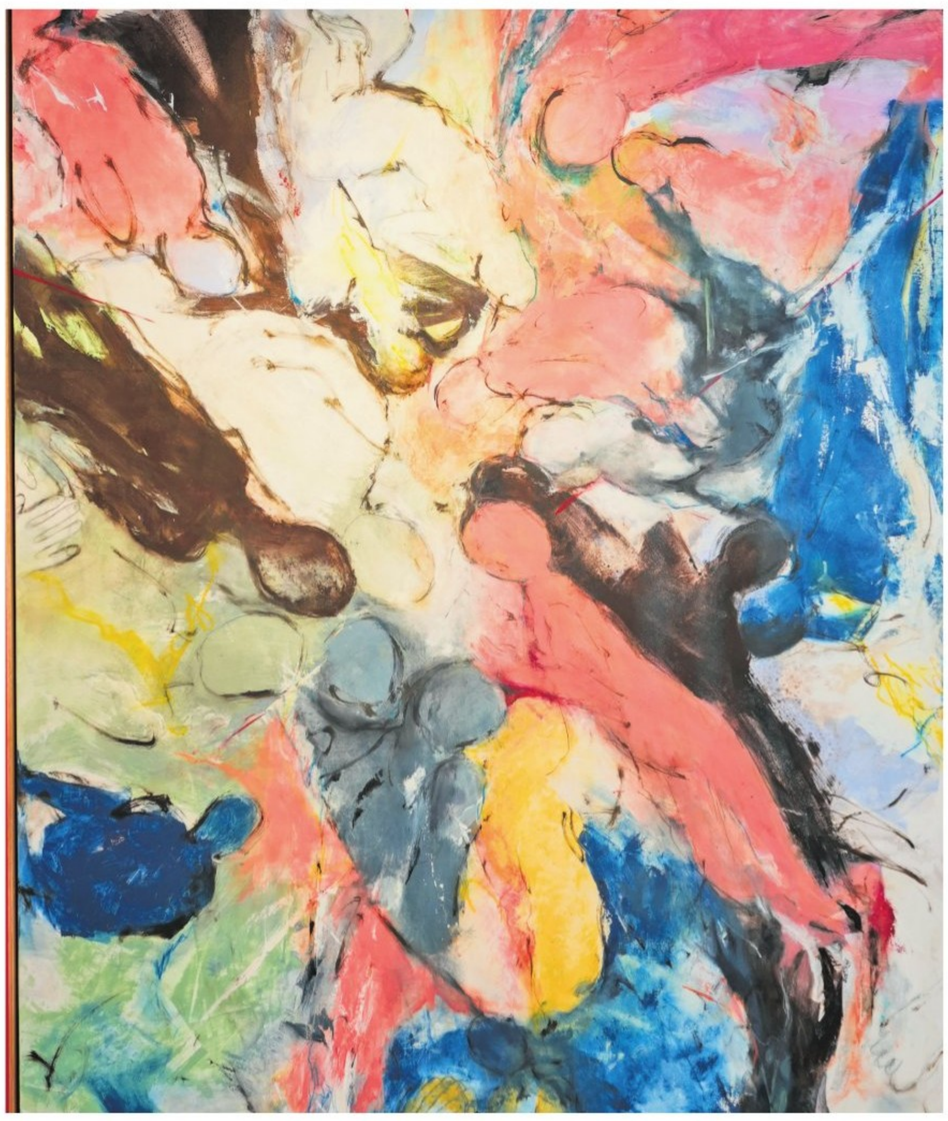
- Both varieties include vitamin B12, choline, vitamin D, selenium and healthy fats. You can have a balanced meal if you pair eggs with fibre-rich food like vegetables or whole grains.

STORAGE AND FRESHNESS MATTER MORE

- Refrigerate eggs properly and consume them before expiry for maximum nutrient retention.
- Choose eggs that fit your budget and focus on consistency rather than marketing myths.

By Madhura P Behki, nutrition expert, cult— a fitness and wellness platform

ARTCORNER



ABSTRACT WHIRL

Artist Suruchi Choksi paints an abstract composition featuring human-like forms, made with spontaneous strokes and a colourful palette

PLAYIN' IT BIG

ŠKODA KODIAQ GETS AN IMPRESSIVE FACELIFT. HERE'S A QUICK SCAN

SPECs

Engine: Turbocharged Petrol

Cylinders: 4

Displacement (cc): 1,984

Max. power (kW at rpm): 150/4,500 - 6,000

Max. torque (Nm at rpm): 320/1,500 - 4,400

Fuel consumption (CMVR rule 115): 14.86 Kmpl

DIMENSIONS (mm)

Length: 4,758

Width: 1,864

Height: 1,679

Wheel base: 2,791

Ground clearance: 155

Seating capacity: 5 (Lounge) / 7 (Sportline, Selection L&K)

Boot space: 281 / 786 / 1,976 litre

Fuel tank capacity: 62 litre

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

HERE comes the Škoda Kodiaq 2026. Just a year after the release of its second-generation premium seven-seater SUV in India, Škoda gives it an update. Not a bumper redesign 'facelift', but a much-needed tech enrichment.

I spent a day with the new Kodiaq last week. Let me share my experience with you. Kodiaq comes in three variants – Lounge (five-seater), Sportline and Selection L&K. I drove the one with top spec, the Selection L&K.

BIGGER

Kodiaq is 4.75 metres long. And we will notice this behemoth from long away, even without pesky details like measurements.

The rear overhang is very obvious. And the height is obviously lower than that of a full-size SUV from Toyota or MG. However, the longer length allows for a sleeker profile, underscored by details like the d-pillar in dark chrome finish.

The face is marked by a wide grille and a horizontal light strip that runs through it, connecting the headlamp units. This signature element now appears in the updated midsize SUV Kushaq too. The C-shaped tail lamps are connected by a decorative strip, giving them an elevated look.

SPACIOUS

The cabin is made up of premium plastics and leather. Black panels and brown leather give the interiors an indisputable elegance. The 32.77 cm infotainment screen and the 26.03 cm info screen behind the steering, though utility-focused, do have a classy look.

One big plus in the new model is the presence of knobs and physical switches for basic controls. Three intelligent knobs have a digital screen as well as rotary function.

The ergonomic seats in the front row are wide and supportive. They have extendable thigh support, ventilation and even a massage function. However, for a massage, one needs to peruse the sub-menus.

Second-row seats are also spacious and comfortable. But the third row is of not much use. Cramped and difficult to enter. Also, one needs to sit in the knee-up position to fit here.

XPRESS HIGHWAY
SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

However, there are a lot of storage spaces, true to the 'simply clever' philosophy of the Škoda.

The fun-to-use gear selector is in the steering column. So, the centre console is for storage and two wireless chargers. And the panoramic sunroof with open function on the front panel makes the cabin much brighter.

There is 281 litre boot space even after using all three rows. But, if you fold the third row, the boot space will be 786 litres.

In effect, incredible payoffs with little effort.

POWERFUL

Kodiaq provides a powerful but composed driving experience. It continues the combination of a two-litre turbo petrol engine with the seven-speed dual clutch automatic transmission. And the smooth partnership gives us a nice driving experience.

The suspension may not be fully soft, but offers very good ride comfort. The SUV comes with all-wheel drive equipment, but I couldn't try it on a spin on the off-road to check further. The fuel efficiency in the city drive was near 10 kmpl, and on highways, a little higher.

NEW TECH

The biggest addition to the Kodiaq in 2026 is the Advanced Driver Assist system (ADAS). Škoda has been fine-tuning the system for Indian conditions. As a result, features like lane-keep assist are not over-enthusiastic. The main ADAS features are LED matrix headlights with adaptive front-lighting system (AFS), adaptive cruise control, front assist with warning and braking reaction, lane-keep assist, blind spot detection, lane change assist and the rear traffic alert and exit warning system.

The 360-degree area view camera, intelligent park assist and gesture-controlled boot opening add to the useful tech features. When we engage the park assist, the car parks in the right bay without steering or pedal inputs. The ADAS, the 360-degree camera, and the park assist are also available in the Sportline variant.

THE VERDICT

The Kodiaq is now more techy and attractive, mainly because of ADAS. Such a big car really benefits from the sensor-assisted system. And if you don't want a techy car, the Lounge variant is the best option. It is priced at ₹36.99 lakh, ₹3 lakh less than the outgoing model. The Sportline is priced at ₹44.99 lakh, and the Selection L&K is priced at ₹46.99 lakh.

For anyone looking for a premium full-size SUV, the Škoda Kodiaq is a fantastic choice.

The writer is a freelance auto expert who hosts TV shows and anchors the YouTube channel 'CARKADUVA'

NEW RELEASE

New Tata Altroz iCNG AMT

Tata Motors has introduced the AMT option in the Altroz iCNG, making it the first and only premium hatchback in India to offer an Automated Manual Transmission with a CNG powertrain. This addition enhances everyday drivability, offering a more relaxed and convenient driving experience, especially in urban conditions. At the core of the iCNG technology is a single advanced ECU, enabling a smooth and seamless transition between petrol and CNG modes. Price ranges from ₹8.69 lakh to ₹10.76 lakh (Ex-showroom Delhi).

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

SMARTADS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

DECLARATION
I, Geetha Reddy Morramreddy gari, R/o No.20, Yogaa Nilayam, Green Garden Phase-3, Near Nakshatra Celestia Apartments, Chokkanahalli, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064, hereby declare that **GEETHA REDDY and GEETHA REDDY MORRAMREDDY GARI** are one and the same person. Vide affidavit dated 29.05.2026 before Notary Public, Bangalore. Henceforth, both names belong to me only.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHASHIDHARA** (old name), Resident of No 98, Near Maramma Temple Bettanapalya, Ramohalli Post, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru 560060, have changed my name to **SHASHIDHARA N** (New name) vide affidavit dated: 29/5/2026 Before Notary **M.K.Devaki** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA father of GAURAVA KUMAR BHARDWAJ, residing at SMQ 14/3 Akash Vihar, Marathahalli, Bangalore - 560037, have changed my name from **SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA to SUDHIR KUMAR** vide affidavit dated 29 May 2026 sworn before notary JALANDHARA Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, M VARDHARAJ, aged about 44 Years, S/o M V Mahadevaiah, residing at No.17, 6th Cross, Doddabommasandra, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore 560097, hereby declare that **M VARDHARAJ and VARADHA RAJU M** both the names belong to one & the same person i.e., myself only. And continue my name in future as **M VARDHARAJ** vide affidavit dated: 30.05.2026 before advocate and notary K.C. Pemmaiah, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sai Deeksha K.M. D/o Sri. K.N. Manjunath Reddy, aged about 18 years, residing at Narayana Reddy Building, 3rd Cross, Muniyappa Layout, K. R. Puram, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560036, have changed my name from **SAI DEEKSHA K.M** to **K.M. DEEKSHA REDDY,** vide affidavit dated 29/5/2026 sworn to before P N Nagesha Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MRS. KOKILA G AKA MRS. KOKILA M, W/o. Mr. Mithun M M, aged about 40 years, residing at No. 4, 8th Main, 11th Cross, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Dasarahalli, Bangalore North, Karnataka - 560057, I declare that below mentioned both names **"Kokila G"** and **"Kokila M"** refer to one and the same person, i.e, myself, vide affidavit dated 25/5/2026 sworn to before B Hanumantharaya Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

FOR SALE
Direct Sale by Owner: Beautiful 6825 sqft Site in Chikkajala Near International Airport Pollution-Free Site with Lush Greenery, Coconut, teak and fruit trees. Just 20 mins from International Airport. Perfect for a luxury villa or weekend retreat.
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DECLARATION
I, Bharath Kumar M, R/o No.20, Yogaa Nilayam, Green Garden Phase-3, Near Nakshatra Celestia Apartments, Chokkanahalli, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064, hereby declare that **BHARATH KUMAR M and BHARATH KUMAR MORRAMREDDYGARI** are one and the same person. Vide affidavit dated 29.05.2026 before Notary Public, Bangalore. Henceforth, both names belong to me only.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **TARA JAGADESH** W/o **Jagadish Rajanna** Residing at No. 33, 4th Cross Sheshappa Colony Opp FCI Vijinapura Bengaluru- 560016 have changed my name to **TARA KRISHNAPPA** vide affidavit dated: 30/5/2026 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAJRANI SHARMA mother of GAURAVA KUMAR BHARDWAJ, residing at SMQ 14/3 Akash Vihar, Marathahalli, Bangalore - 560037, have changed my name from **RAJRANI SHARMA to RAJRANI** vide affidavit dated 29 May 2026 sworn before notary Jalandhara Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mr. VISHAL P NAIK, Son of Mr. Premanand V Naik, aged 44 years, resident of No. 117, KHB High Rise Apartment, 15th Cross, A Sector, Opposite to Chaitanya Medical, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore North, Bengaluru - 560064, have changed my minor son's name **ARNAV** to **ARNAV VISHAL NAIK,** vide affidavit dated 30/5/2026 sworn to before S R Ravikumar Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NIMAY KAUSHIK** S/o Mr. Kaushik K Gowda (DOB: 28-06-2007) Resident of: #2383, Amulya Chandra Apartment, Flat 005, 14th Cross, 9th B Main, G.K.V.K Judicial Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560065, have changed my name from **NIMAY KAUSHIK to NIMAY KAUSHIK GOWDA** vide Affidavit Dated: 30-05-2026, sworn to before Notary Public G.P CHAYA Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MR. SUNIL KM S/o. Late. Mr. K M Mallaraje Urs, Aged about 48 years, Residing at R B D Still Waters Apartment, 0-8, 8th Floor, Wing C, Silver Country Road, Haraluru, Bangalore South, HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560102, I declare that below mentioned both names **Sunil K M** and **"Sunil Koonur Mallaraje Urs"** refer to one and the same person, i.e., myself., vide affidavit dated 12/5/2026 sworn to before B Hanumantharaya Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

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CHANGE OF NAME
I, **HANDALAKUPPE VENKATESH NAVEEN KUMAR (NAVEEN KUMAR.H.V),** aged 31 years, R/at No.83, Ground Floor, Magadi Main Road, Hyper Market, BGS Layout, Tavareke Hobli, Tavarekere Post, Bangalore South-562130, have changed my name from **HUNAMACHUNA HALLI VENKATESH NAVEEN KUMAR** to **HANDALAKUPPE VENKATESH NAVEEN KUMAR (NAVEEN KUMAR.H.V).** Vide affidavit dated: 22-05-2026, sworn before Advocate & Notary Devaraja.E, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mrs. TEENA KORIYA P, W/o John K Antony, aged 40 years residing at No.82/b, Flat No. 201, Mythri Pride, Upadhya Layout, Behind Bangalore University, Nagadevanahalli, Bangalore-560056. Do here by declare that my name changed from **"TEENA JOHN"** (Old Name) to **"TEENA KORIYA P"** (New Name) vide affidavit dated **30.05.2026** sworn to before me **Ravi B,A, LLB.,** Advocate & Notary Bengaluru-560040.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ANANDA REDDY.C.M,** S/o Muni Reddy, Aged about 48 years, R/at Chalaganahalli Village, Baliganahalli Post, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ANANDA REDDY** to **ANANDA REDDY.C.M** in all records and all future references including records, documents and in other transaction etc., vide affidavit dated 29.05.2026 sworn before H.V. Ramesh, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ALEEM PASHA ABDUL RAHIM, S/O ABDUL RAHIM, Resident of NO.18 F4, 5TH CROSS, TELECOM LAYOUT, K P AGRAHARA, VIJAYANGAR, BENGALURU-560023. I have changed my name to ALEEM PASHA** for all purposes affidavit dated 22/05/2026 sworn before advocate and notary M.K. Devika, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MAYA VARMA Wife of PURNA VARMA, Residing at:-#921, 5th A Cross, 1st Block, Near Babusa Palya Busstand, HRBR Layout, Kalyananagar, Bengaluru - 560043, have changed my minor son's name from **PURAN VARMA** to **NISANT VARMA,** vide affidavit dated 30/5/2026 sworn to before G R Ravichandra Reddy Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SK AKTAR,** S/o SK Joynal, aged about 40 years, residing at No. 17, Near Govt. Jr. College, Belathur, Kadugodi, Bangalore South, Karnataka -560 067, have changed my daughter's name from **AMREEN TAJ to AMREEN KHATUN** and correct Date of Birth is 13-05-2011. vide affidavit dated: 30.05.2026 before advocate and notary M. Krishnamurthy, Bengaluru.

QuoteExpress
IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE) NELSON MANDELA

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **REENAMMA** dependent of **SGT RIJIN JOSEPH** permanent resident of Chowattukunnel, Muthukad, Chakkittapara, Dist: Kozhikode, Kerala – 673528, presently residing at No.228, First floor, 8th Main, 1st Cross, 1st Block East, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560011, Karnataka have changed my name from **REENAMMA** to **REENAMMA JOSEPH** vide affidavit dated 30-05-2026 before Notary **R BASAVARAJA,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) LILLY ALFRED wife of M.R.Moses, residing at No.35, Ground Floor, ACL Layout, Near Bombay Tailor, Kowdenahalli, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru 560016, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) LILLY ALFRED** to **(NEW NAME) LILLY FLORA** vide affidavit dated 21.05.2026 sworn before Notary Y.R.Chandrasekar, Bangalore-32.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Ms. Sheethal Subhas, D/o Subhas B S, W/o Anand Mariswamy, residing at F4, VN Residency, Chikkalsandra Main Road, Chikkalsandra, Bangalore- 560061, do hereby state that I have changed my name as Sheethal Subhas from Sheethal Subash. I state that my father's name is **"B S Subhas"** and not **"B S Subash".** Hence, I declare that **"B S Subash"** and **"B S Subhas"** refer to one and the same person, namely my father; vide affidavit dated 30th May 2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary P N Nagesha Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sai Prajwal K.M. S/o Sri. K.N. Manjunath Reddy, aged about 22 years residing at Narayana Reddy Building, 3rd Cross, Muniyappa Layout, K. R. Puram, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560036, have changed my name from **SAI PRAJWAL K.M** to **K.M. PRAJWAL,** vide affidavit dated 29/5/2026 sworn to before P N Nagesha Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PANI DEVI JAIN,** S/o Late Jeetmal Jain, Residing at No.2/1, Matrukrupa, Jain Temple Street Cross, Opp Sajan Rao School, V V Puram, Bangalore-560 004, I have changed my name to **PANI DEVI** for all purposes affidavit dated 29/05/2026 sworn before advocate and notary Mamatha N.K., Bangalore

For SMARTADS
Contact : Mr Ravi Kumar
9886550650
080-22866893

Sanjana Anand

Ramenahalli Jagannatha and Ganesh

SANJANA ANAND TO STAR ALONGSIDE GANESH IN *TAMMA SUKHAGAMANA BAYASUVA*

CE learns that Sanjana Anand has been finalised as the female lead opposite Ganesh in director Ramennahalli Jagannatha's emotional family drama, which has already completed its first schedule in Bengaluru

A SHARADHAA

DIRECTOR Ramennahalli Jagannatha's *Tamma Sukhagamana Bayasuva*, starring Ganesh, is currently under production. The film has completed its first shooting schedule in Bengaluru, with the team preparing to resume filming soon. While the makers have remained tight-lipped about the cast, CE has learnt that actor Sanjana Anand has been finalised as the female lead opposite Ganesh.

Known for *Chemistry of Kariyappa*, Sanjana was recently seen in *Ekka* alongside Yuva Rajkumar and in *Hayagrriva* with Danveerrah. She also awaits the release of *Bail*, which stars Shivarajkumar and Deekshith Shetty. With *Tamma Sukhagamana Bayasuva*, Sanjana adds another interesting project to her filmography. The film marks her first collaboration with Ganesh, and Sanjana is said to have already joined the sets. An official announcement regarding her inclusion is expected from the makers in the upcoming days.

For Jagannatha, the project carries a personal connection. A long-time admirer of Ganesh's *Mungaru Male*, a film he has reportedly revisited several times, the director has written *Tamma Sukhagamana Bayasuva* as a family-oriented emotional drama. Music for the film is composed by Arjun Janya, bringing back the successful combination seen in Krishnam Pranaya Sakhi. The supporting cast also includes Achyuth Kumar and Rangaayana Raghu. Apart from *Tamma Sukhagamana Bayasuva*, Ganesh also has *Brinda Vihaari*, which is set to be his next release. He also has *Pinaka* and *Your Sincerely Raam*, both progressing through different stages of production.

John Vijay joins *Halka Don*

CE FEATURES

KANNADA cinema continues to draw talent from across industries, and the latest to join the fold is John Vijay. Known for his work across Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi cinema, the actor has now come on board *Halka Don*, the upcoming film produced by KP Sreekanth. The producer has backed successful Kannada films such as Tagaru, Salaga, and UI, and is producing *Halka Don* under the Venus Entertainers banner. The upcoming film marks the production house's fourth venture and stars Pramod in the lead, with Amrutha Iyengar playing the female lead.

John Vijay was previously seen in *Prithvi*, starring the late Puneeth Rajkumar, and Yash's *Gajakessari*. Now, *Halka Don* marks his return to Kannada cinema in what is said to be a pivotal role. Welcoming him to the film, the makers unveiled a poster carrying the line, 'The Game Just Got Bigger'. Directed by Chaluva, the film carries the tagline 'Sai Kumar Fan', with veteran actor Sai Kumar set to appear in a special role. *Halka Don* is being simultaneously made in Kannada and Telugu.

With music by V Harikrishna and cinematography by Satya Hegde, the film is progressing at a brisk pace. The makers are eyeing a release later this year.

John Vijay

AR Rahman and Shekhar Kapur to reunite

CE FEATURES

AR Rahman and Shekhar Kapur are officially reuniting for a modern reimagining of the director' classic 1983 film, *Masoom*. Titled *Masoom: The New Generation*, the film is set to feature the 1983 original's lead actors Naseeruddin Shah and Shabana Azmi, as well as Nithya Menen, Manoj Bajpayee, and Kaveri Kapur. Further, it brings Shekhar Kapur back together with AR Rahman after collaborations on films such as *Dil Se..* (1998) and *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* (2007), as well as theatre productions Bombay Dreams and Why? - The Musical. It is worth noting that Shekhar Kapur is one of the producers of Dil Se/Uyire.

Apart from composing the music, Rahman is also onboard as a co-producer. According to a press note, *Masoom: The New Generation* will have the core emotions that still make the 1983 original resonate with viewers while exploring evolving themes of family, love, migration and identity through a contemporary lens.

'I waited till I trusted myself with the story': Karthik Sharma

The first-time director talks about his debut *Bhavaantara*, a script he held on to for 12 years

A still from the film

Karthik Sharma

CE FEATURES

KARTHIK Sharma does not speak about directing his debut with the impatience of someone chasing a long-delayed dream. If anything, there is caution in the way he approaches the subject. For a man who entered cinema as a child and grew up around sets, microphones and recording studios, direction, strangely enough, was the one ambition he refused to rush, finally realising it through his directorial debut, *Bhavaantara*. "I always wanted to direct, but I did not know whether I was ready." That uncertainty stayed with him longer than the ambition itself. Recognised as a child actor in films such as Veera Kannadiga and Magic Ajji, Karthik Sharma appeared in over 35 films and television serials. He also dubbed for child actors before finding another identity in music. Having trained in cinematography and audio engineering at AR Rahman's institute and spent years moving between Bengaluru and Mumbai composing title songs for television dramas, the medium, in many ways, became his second school.

"I have done title songs and music for more than 100 TV serials and shows. It kept me creatively occupied, but somewhere in the background, I had this script with me." That script remained with him for nearly 12 years before taking shape as *Bhavaantara*. Interestingly, he says the film did not begin with commercial positioning in mind. "It started as an arthouse film. That was the original instinct. But while making it, we realised the story had emotional accessibility beyond that space. We did not change the core; we only understood better how to present it." The film, based on real-life incidents that happened in Tamil Nadu, explores transgender lives and transitions. Sharma is careful while speaking about the subject, perhaps aware of how easily stories around gender identity are reduced to messaging. "At its heart, this is a love story. The transgender world is part of the setting and emotional truth of the film. But I did not want to make something that looked at them from the outside. I wanted intimacy. To the best of my knowledge, this kind of story has not been explored in South Indian cinema."

Bhavaantara also becomes a personal film in more ways than one. Sharma has written the story, screenplay and dialogues, and also composed the music, and plays a prominent role in the film. For someone who has moved across departments for most of his career, multitasking feels less like ambition and more like habit. "People know me as a child actor and a composer. Now, I am presenting myself as a director. I hope the encouragement I received in those phases continues here as well." The music, unsurprisingly, remains close to him. The film features five songs, with Hombale Music acquiring the audio rights. "It is encouraging when a banner like Hombale comes behind a film like this. This is not mounted on a massive budget. So, when they showed interest, I felt it was the content speaking for itself."

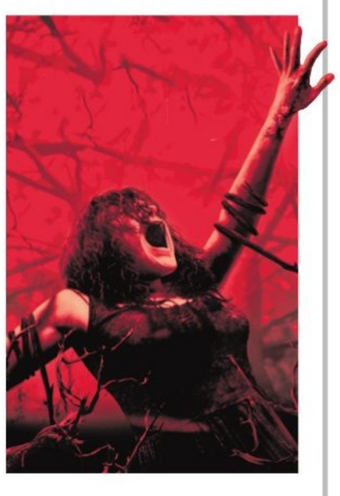
Filming is complete; the teaser has already been released, and censor formalities are next. Shot across Udupi, Bengaluru and Tamil Nadu, *Bhavaantara* stars Tanvi Rao alongside Sharma, with Pranav Sridhar, Srivaishnav, Veda Rao and Bhanu in supporting roles. "You can want something for years, but wanting alone is not enough. I waited till I trusted myself with the story," he signs off.

EVIL DEAD WRATH WRAPS FILMING

CE FEATURES

ON February, it was reported that *Evil Dead Wrath* had begun filming. The makers announced on Sunday that the production of the horror film has concluded. Writer-director Francis Galluppi (*The Last Stop in Yuma County*) is helming the new film.

It is worth noting that the franchise's upcoming film, *Evil Dead Burn*, is set to release in theatres on July 24. The next film is expected to follow *Evil Dead Burn*. *Evil Dead Wrath* will star Charlotte Hope (*The Nun*), Zach Gilford (*Midnight Mass*), Jessica McNamee (*Mortal Kombat*), Josh Helman (*Mad Max: Fury Road*), Elizabeth Cullen (*Diabolic*), Ella Newton (*Dangerous Animals*), and Ella Oliphant.



Evil Dead creator Sam Raimi and franchise producer Rob Tapert are serving as the producers of *Evil Dead Wrath*.

No journey ends without Ramayana and Mahabharata: Ravichandran turns inward with *CRAZY PRAYANA*

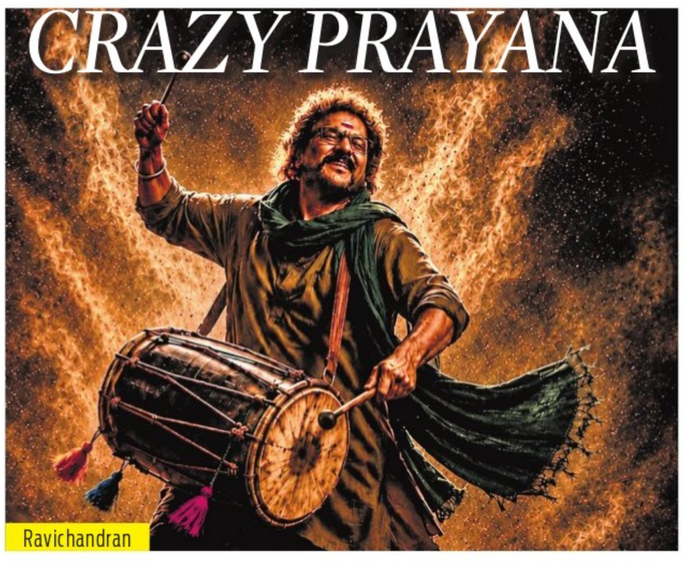
CE FEATURES

FOR Ravichandran, cinema has never been just about entertainment. It is about memory, emotion, faith, and fantasy. When he marked his 65th birthday with *Crazy Prayana*, the release felt more like a personal letter written in music than a celebratory single.

Launched as a tribute to his cinematic journey and his audiences over the years, *Crazy Prayana* carries the emotional weight of a man looking back while still focused on what lies ahead. The song opens with a striking thought: "No journey ends without the Ramayana and Mahabharata." Paired with the English refrain, "There is no journey without war and pain," the track sets the tone for a meditation on struggle, survival, and self-discovery.

However, *Crazy Prayana* doesn't dive deep into philosophy for long. It quickly turns intimate.

Ravichandran revisits the foundations of his life, acknowledging his parents as the guiding force behind his journey. His father's faith and his mother's love become emotional anchors in a song that serves as a thank-you note to the Kannada audiences. The lyrics suggest that the support of the Kannada people gave colour and purpose to his creative life.



Ravichandran

The song also touches on key moments from his artistic past. References to Premaloka and composer Hamsalekha bring back an era that reshaped romance and music in Kannada cinema. Spiritual chants like "Govinda Govinda," "Hara Hara Mahadeva," and "Om Namah Shivaya" give the composition a reflective quality, shifting the focus from applause to introspection.

Among the most powerful moments are lines that reflect on life's unpredictability. The song talks about how close ones drift away while strangers become companions, and every meeting offers a lesson. Then comes the reveal. "*I Am God. The Crazy.* The silent spectator. The invisible destroyer. The magical. The musical. The miracle."

This declaration is not just poetic. It connects directly to Ravichandran's long-held project, *I Am God - The Crazy*. In an earlier conversation with Cinema Express, he described the film as one shaped with the help of artificial intelligence, calling AI his "best companion." For Ravichandran, technology does not replace creativity. It helps him unlock ideas that have long resided in his imagination.